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Perry: We'll maintain Israel's superiority

ALON PINKAS and news agencies

SECRETARY of Defense William Perry yesterday reaffirmed the US commitment to the Israeli-Syrian peace process, saying this is one of the reasons for his visit.

"Our commitment to the peace process is one of the reasons I have come here, together with reaffirming our unshakeable commitment to Israel's security and maintaining Israel's qualitative advantage," Perry said at a state dinner in Jerusalem hosted by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Perry, who will be here for two days, discussed with Rabin the possibility of deploying US troops as observers on the Golan Heights, if and when a Syrian-Israeli accord is reached.

"We have willingness to discuss that, but it is premature at this time," he said. "We do not yet have a peace plan, and in particular we don't have a plan for how peacekeeping forces might be deployed there."

But Foreign Minister Shimon Peres hinted that the issue was on the table, saying: "We don't want to worry American mothers and, at most, what we are talking about is really a participation of a rather symbolic nature which doesn't carry risks and dangers."

Perry also visited Yad Vashem.

Today, he is to travel to the North, and take a look at the Golan Heights from a helicopter.

Perry also told reporters the US is "very much concerned about the potential that Iran might become a nuclear power."

"We do not consider that an acceptable development," he said.

Asked about reports Russia might help Iran complete a nuclear power plant, he said: "To the extent that this might lead in that direction [a nuclear Iran], we'd be very much opposed to it."

In a two-hour meeting with Rabin, Perry said the US wants "a nuclear non-proliferation regime applied to the whole area," said a US official accompanying him. But he did not specifically request that Israel join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the official said.

They also discussed press reports that Israel may have sold US fighter technology to China, which Rabin denied, the official said.

Netanyahu warns Perry, Page 2



Rabbi Menahem Felix, the father of Ofra, consoles his son Yossi during her funeral yesterday. (Isaac Harari)

Several thousand attend six-hour funeral procession for Ofra Felix

HERB KEINON

SEVERAL thousand people took part yesterday in a six-hour funeral procession for Ofra Felix, the 20-year-old Hebrew University student from Eilon Moreh killed by terrorists Friday.

About 3,000 people attended an hour-long service at Jerusalem's Sanhedria Funeral Parlor in the morning. After the service, mourners boarded buses and cars and followed the blue-shrouded body to Eilon Moreh, where Felix was buried in the new cemetery.

When the convoy passed the spot where Felix was murdered, the mourners stopped and Rabbi Menahem Felix, Ofra's father and one of the founders of Gush Emunim, recited kaddish. The convoy, which wound its way through Ramallah on the way to Eilon Moreh, was guarded by a large number of soldiers.

In the morning the solemn-faced crowd filled the Jerusalem funeral parlor, spilling onto the steps and down to Rehov Golda Meir below. Amplifiers were set up outside, making it possible to hear the eulogies from inside the hall.

"I asked my wife many times why we merited such children," Felix said of his seven children. "They are far better than we are. Thank God we merited her [Ofra] for 20 years. But why, why God, did you take her before you took us?"

"We have good children," Felix said. "Now we have a martyr. Dear God, stop this horrible thing. Give us another government, a government that will defend the people of Israel, not lean on the Gentiles. Get rid of them [the government]," he pleaded.

A number of people responded "Amen."

Menahem Felix began his eulogy by saying his daughter would be pleased that her brother-in-law and two small nieces escaped the deadly attack with only light injuries. The brother-in-law, Amichai Remer, who was shot in the arm, attended the funeral.

Menahem Felix stood throughout the hour-long service by the side of his close friend, Benny Katsover. He intermittently swayed as psalms were read responsively and exchanged words with Katsover. Felix was composed and deliberate when he delivered his eulogy.

Rabbi Haim Druckman, however, was not so reserved. Druckman, like Katsover and Felix, was among the earliest leaders of Gush Emunim. "It is impossible today not to scream out," he said, his voice shaking with emotion.

"This funeral is a funeral for all Israel. What a wonderful world was lost to us. How many sacrifices will it take before people open their eyes? They want to harm every one of us. Hasn't the time come to open up our eyes and stop this awful situation?"

Druckman said the burial of Ofra in a new cemetery in Eilon Moreh symbolizes the connection of the people to the land. "That grave in Eilon Moreh will only strengthen our ties to the Land of Israel," Druckman said. "We will not leave it."

Among those at the funeral were a number of Knesset members, the leadership of the settlement movement, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, and Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau.

In Eilon Moreh, Likud MK Ariel Sharon eulogized Felix, and said volunteers may be needed to protect the roads in Judea and Samaria. "If the government is unable or unwilling, because of political considerations, to adequately fight terror, we are obligated to volunteer to protect the roads. Many people will volunteer," Sharon said, "and I will be among them."

When OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran went to the cemetery, a couple people shouted at him. "Murderer, you spilled this blood." Others tried to quite the hecklers, while one man said over the microphone that "We have no argument with the army, we are all part of the army."

After nightfall, dozens of youth from Eilon Moreh and nearby settlements went to the site of the killing to set up a vigil.

Aharon Domb, spokesman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, said "for the meantime" the vigil is to last throughout the seven-day mourning period. He said the move was not coordinated with the IDF.

Peres, Arafat meet today at Erez crossing

Cairo talks on elections resume

JON IMMANUEL and LAMIA LAHOUD

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat are to meet at the Erez checkpoint today, under the cloud of new settlement disputes, terror attacks, and last week's fatal clash between soldiers and the Palestinian Police.

Prisoners, security, settlements, and redeployment are expected to be discussed.

IDF soldiers fired shots into Gaza near the checkpoint last night, when they saw suspicious figures in an orchard. No one was hurt. The Palestinian Police was called to help investigate the incident.

In Cairo, meanwhile, a committee is to resume discussions on the format of the Palestinian administrative council to be elected, its powers, and its size.

One Palestinian suggestion has been for election of 60 regional councillors with some legislative powers, who would in turn elect a 25-member executive council.

Saeb Erekat, the Palestinian Authority minister in charge of elections, left for Cairo yesterday. The Israeli team is to be headed by Brig.-Gen. Gadi Zohar, head of the civil administration.

Arafat and Peres last met on December 21 in Arafat's office in Gaza City and agreed to a two-tier format – one forum for discussion of elections and another for issues relating to security and redeployment.

Redeployment, considered to be the stickiest issue delaying the holding of elections, is to be discussed at the highest level, between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Arafat, and their emissaries, such as Peres and PA Planning Minister Nabil Shaath.

Shaath, who met with Peres in Cairo last week in the framework of the Higher Liaison Committee, said after the weekly meeting of the PA Saturday that in Cairo he and Peres had discussed "the schedule for negotiating the redeployment of the Israeli army out of Palestinian towns and villages in the West Bank."

Shaath added, however, that the issue of prisoners is so crucial that he would not attend another liaison meeting unless Israel started releasing the remaining 6,000 security detainees.

Israel released close to 5,000 prisoners up to the end of August as part of the May 4 Cairo Agreement. Future releases are subject to negotiations.

Today, the PA is holding a conference in Jericho on "the destruction of peace by settlements."

Representatives of all institutions, village heads, notables, and refugee camp leaders in the territories are invited.

The meeting is seen as the PA's attempt to drum up support for a new anti-settlement drive galvanized by the dispute between El-Khader and Efrat.

Peres has already told Shaath there will be no more government-sponsored construction in the settlements and no confiscation of lands for settlements. But Peres is also expected to stress the deteriorating security situation, highlighted by the incident last week in which police shot at soldiers from the Gaza Strip. Return fire by the IDF killed three policemen.

Peres is expected to demand tighter control over police recruitment.

Tension is also growing in the prisons. A riot erupted Saturday night in Fara, near Nablus, where 550 security detainees are held in a building and in tents. Guards shot and moderately wounded two prisoners after a guard was attacked.

A third prisoner was hit by an iron bar thrown by inmates during the clash. Prisoners tried to rip down tents and burn them, the IDF said.

At the Erez Military Court yesterday a Hamas activist, Marwan Zard, 20, accused of killing three Palestinians and shooting at military targets, was sentenced to three life sentences plus 40 years' imprisonment.

At a meeting of The Jerusalem Link, a coordinating body of two independent Palestinian and Israeli women's groups, Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni found herself to be the only optimistic panelist.

Aloni pointed out that in eight months since the Cairo agreement, Gaza has seen Arafat's arrival, the deployment of Palestinian police, and regular Arafat-Rabin meetings.

But Hanan Ashrawi, now active in promoting Palestinian civil rights, said "We have too many police. We have ended up becoming more and more convoluted. The most dangerous aspect is the widening gap between the political dialogue and the actions on the ground."

Weissmans charged with killing daughter

RAINE MARCUS

MIRIAM and Michael Weissman, 74 and 72, were charged yesterday by Tel Aviv District Court with murdering their daughter, Natalie Weissman-Margalit, in their Bat Yam apartment three weeks ago.

Natalie, 33, was suffocated as she slept on the night of December 14. At first police believed she had committed suicide, but an autopsy determined she had been murdered.

Police said the couple murdered Natalie because she had tried to throw her nine-year-old daughter down the steps at a shopping mall.

According to the indictment, presented by prosecutor Ziva Kendel, both Miriam and Michael Weissman committed the murder together.

Defense lawyer Eyal Shomroni-Cohen asked Judge Avraham Beiser to postpone the trial until February 2 so he could study all the evidence against the couple, who still deny killing their daughter. Michael Weissman is in a Prisons Service hospital undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, while Miriam Weissman is in custody at Abu Kabir.

Likud denies its leaders had PLO contacts

MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE Likud leadership yesterday demanded that a state or parliamentary inquiry commission, headed by a Supreme Court justice, probe Mahmoud Abbas's (Abu Mazen's) allegations concerning Labor leaders' 1992 meetings with PLO officials.

At the same time, the Likud emphatically denied that its own leaders – then in government – had had any contact with PLO leaders, despite Abbas's claims.

The Likud said the inquiry should investigate allegations concerning the Likud as well, "so the whole truth comes out," MK Eliyahu Ben-Elissar said.

Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu said he had spoken to former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, former defense minister Moshe Arens, and former housing minister Ariel Sharon, and all firmly denied Abbas's claims they had intended to meet PLO leaders.

Netanyahu noted the Likud was permitted to have such contacts, because it was in power at the time; but the opposition was not, because of the law forbidding unauthorized meetings with the PLO.

Shamir said Abbas's book confirms rumors circulating at the time "and it does not seem to me to be sensationalism or exaggeration. We are dealing with a violation of the law which borders on treason."

Shamir said parts of the book "did not appear to be groundless. From knowing the events before and after [the elections], there are things there which seem reasonable."

Asked about Likud contacts with the PLO, Shamir retorted, "That's a lie. I know that for a fact. There were no contacts or talks."

Meanwhile, Health Minister Efraim Sneh said Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin did not initiate the meeting between Sneh and Sa'id Kanaan, and afterward ordered such contacts stopped.

Sneh gave his version of events at yesterday's cabinet session, which heard a brief report of the Abbas affair.

Sneh said the whole story had been blown out of all proportion. It "began in an article published in *Ha'aretz* three months ago and was carried on by Israel Radio yesterday. The truth is that single meeting with Kanaan had no such character [intention to intervene in the elections]. I also made it clear that Kanaan was never a PLO leader and therefore could not serve as a pipeline to anything. But I did meet him, as I met others from the territories from time to time."

David Rudge adds:

Hadash MK Hashem Mahameed said he is not aware of any PLO effort to influence the Arab electorate.

"I have never heard from Abu Mazen or any other person in the PLO any demand or request to vote for one party or another," he told reporters in Haifa.

"Even if the PLO were to make such a request, I don't believe it would be answered automatically. Not every demand of the PLO is holy in our eyes. We decide in accordance with our own interests as Israeli citizens."

Bassiouny defends talks, Page 2

Doctors remove 15-kilo tumor from woman

JUDY SIEGEL

LANIADO Hospital doctors removed a 15-kilo benign tumor from the uterus of a Netanya woman last week, after requesting a court order to perform the life-saving surgery.

The woman, 50, had adamantly refused to undergo surgery, but when she lost consciousness and was near death, the court permitted the doctors to go ahead.

Dr. Zvi Shimoni, head of the internal medicine department, said the tumor was "so large it will probably make the *Guinness Book of World Records*."

The woman, identified as M.L., found out she had a benign tumor in her womb 20 years ago. Since then it grew, and in the last 18 months it pressed heavily on her blood vessels, periodically requiring her hospitalization and putting her into shock. But the woman refused to have an operation, insisting she was "scared."

A team of 12 doctors performed the four-and-a-half-hour operation. "It was as if she had carried three babies," said Shimoni.

Told she had undergone an operation that saved her life, the woman wanted only to hear that the growth was not cancerous.

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Sarid, Shetreet spar over construction in settlements

HERB KEINON and Itim

DIVISIONS in the cabinet over construction in settlements came to the forefront yesterday, as ministers Yossi Sarid and Shimon Shetreet traded verbal barbs concerning how much supervision is needed.

As a result of the controversy surrounding construction at Givat Hatamar in Efrat, the four Meretz ministers said they want the cabinet to give final approval to all plans for construction in Judea and Samaria.

It is government policy, Sarid reportedly said, that "There are to be no new settlements, that there is to be no land expropriated for the needs of existing settlements, and there is to be no government investment in settlements, except for some things, like nursery schools and clinics."

Shetreet, on the other hand, said that according to the coalition guidelines, existing settlements are to be thickened.

He was quoted as telling Sarid, "You approve Arab building ... but for the Jews, you make things difficult and are heavy-handed."

To which Sarid replied, "You are Likud.

Shetreet then said, "You don't know what government you are sitting in. This is a government of Jews, not Arabs."

Shetreet was supported at various times by Agricultural Minister Ya'acov Tsur, who joined him in criticizing the Meretz ministers for claiming that there is a secret agreement between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and heads of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza concerning construction in the settlements.

Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar also joined Shetreet in arguing against the Meretz demand that all land expropriation for the purpose of building bypass roads also be brought before the government for approval.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin also had difficulty with the Meretz suggestion, at one point saying, "We have to bring every house and the expansion of services for approval?"

The cabinet is to take up the subject again at its next session, when Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer is to brief the ministers on construction now taking place in the settlements.

The Shetreet-Sarid sparring continued during interviews both granted journalists.

"There is a minister in the government who loves to create tension so he can run to 'the guys' afterward and talk about it," Sarid said. "In this case 'the guys' are the journalists."

Shetreet said that if Sarid believes his position on settlements is invalid "and he wants to say that I represent the Likud, then I am proud of that position. My problem is if I represent the Likud, there is a question mark about who he represents ... He represents what is beyond the national consensus – that is his problem."

Peres: Don't moan – we're a success

ALON PINKAS

THE government has achieved tremendous political and economic successes, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday told a stormy cabinet meeting.

"For God's sake, what are you moaning about?" Peres was quoted as asking in response to ministers sniping at one another over the government's image.

Peres said the government must stand firmly in defense of its ideology and not look at poll ratings for approval.

"David Ben-Gurion worked for and decided on partition in 1947 against the majority of the Jewish population in Mandatory Palestine. We should not cater to public opinion, because not everything is approval ratings, and we should not be constantly looking behind our backs," Peres said.

In remarks described by ministers as emotional and passionate, Peres also lashed out at the Likud, saying it has "no alternative policy to that of the government."

Beilin heckled during address to rabbinical conference

HERB KEINON

NEAR pandemonium broke out at a major rabbinic conference yesterday at the Dead Sea, when Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin went to the podium to speak on "The dangers, chances, and spiritual significance of peace."

A number of rabbis at the conference, sponsored by the Ariel Institute, began to heckle Beilin and would not allow him to begin his address. When he finally began to speak, his words were constantly interrupted.

The three-day conference, attended by rabbis of all factions within Orthodoxy, was devoted to the peace process and its ramifications. Before Beilin was even called to the podium, a resolution was read calling for halting the Oslo process.

Despite the heckling, Beilin quieted the crowd by threatening to leave the conference, and reminded the audience that he had been invited to speak. In his address, he spoke of the dangers of assimilation and the need for Jewish education in the Diaspora.

Haifa Chief Rabbi She'ar Yashuv Cohen, the head of Ariel and organizer of the conference, said Beilin was invited intentionally so "the other side" could be heard.

"I am sorry about the way some of the rabbis behaved," Cohen said afterward. "He should have been given the opportunity to speak, to present the opposite view, so that maybe we could have reached his heart."

Cohen said that at annual conference there is always an attempt to invite a speaker on the particular issue at hand who represents the point of view contrary to that held by most of the rabbis.

Triangle Arabs aim to torpedo regional council

DAVID RUDGE

RESIDENTS of eight Arab villages in the Triangle region are intensifying their campaign against a regional council of appointed officials they claim was foisted on them.

Representatives of the villages told a press conference in Haifa yesterday that several of the appointed officials are Jews and none of them is a resident of the villages.

"Our fight is that of Israeli citizens struggling to achieve our equal rights and the basic right to be able to participate in the management of our own affairs," said Mohammed Agbariya from the village of Zalafa.

Another villager, Rida Agbariya, said they want the regional council dismantled and some of the villages incorporated into existing local authorities, with new councils established by joining together villages that are close to one another.

He stressed that some of the eight villages – Musmus, Muawiya, Musheirifa, Salem, Zalafa, West Barta'a, Baiyada and Ein Ashala – are dozens of kilometers apart.

"If, however, our recommendations are rejected, we at least demand the right to elect our own representatives to the regional council, on condition they would have the authority to make and implement decisions," said Rida Agbariya.

Furthermore, he noted, land owned and farmed by residents of the villages is under the jurisdiction of the Meggido and Menashe regional councils, making it impossible for the appointed regional council to draw up long-term development plans for the villages.

Hadash MK Hashem Mahameed, who is helping the villagers' campaign, said some are concerned the land might be allocated to establish new Jewish towns in the area, and that they would not be consulted.

The villagers said they would turn to the courts unless the Interior Ministry agrees to incorporate their land into the jurisdiction of the regional council.

The Interior Ministry insists the appointed council is only temporary and elections are eventually to be held. The question of the land is being investigated by a special subcommittee, but there is no intention of taking any land away from the villagers, a ministry spokesman said.

Netanyahu: Perry is talking to minority government

DAVID RUDGE

OPPOSITION leaders visited the Golan Heights yesterday on the eve of the scheduled visit to the North by US Defense Secretary William Perry.

"It's important that Perry should know that when he's talking to the present government, which wants to give the Golan Heights to the Syrians, he's talking to a minority government," said Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu.

He said it was equally important that Perry should be aware that the vast majority of the public is opposed to a withdrawal from the Golan.

Netanyahu, as well as leaders of Tsomet and the National Religious Party, met with representatives of the Golan Residents Committee in Katzrin before holding a press conference.

Referring to Perry's visit, Netanyahu said he "strongly recommends" that he come to the region to see the situation on the ground for himself.

"The best way to clearly appreciate the reality of the security situation in the field – the necessity from the security aspect of the Golan Heights – is to visit the area," he said.

"Its not too late to change the program so that he can come here, as there were visits [to the Golan] by senators, congressmen, members of the US administration, and heads of other governments in the past, before the Rabin government changed the policies."

Netanyahu charged that the government had imposed a ban on visits to the Golan by foreign diplomats and politicians, which he claimed is another sign it intends to give the region to the Syrians.

Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan underlined the strategic importance of the Golan, maintaining that the Arab world had not changed its attitude toward Israel.

MK Moshe Peled (Tsomet) said that if the opposition came to power it would not honor any agreement requiring a withdrawal.

MK Yigal Bibi (NRP) stressed there is a national consensus against any pullout from the Golan. He called on all the parties and pro-Golan lobbyists to ensure the matter stays in the public eye, especially in the coming months, which he said would be a crucial period.



At yesterday's welcoming ceremony for US Defense Secretary William Perry in Tel Aviv are (from left): Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Perry, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, and Maj.-Gen. Danny Yatom, Rabin's military aide. (Alon Ron/Israel Sun)

Bassiouny defends pre-election talks with Israeli Arab politicians

STEVE RODAN

EGYPTIAN Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny yesterday defended his government's meetings with Israeli Arab politicians in the weeks before the 1992 Knesset elections, saying Cairo regarded them as part of its dialogue with the entire Israeli political spectrum.

"We have a political dialogue with all the parties concerned," he told *The Jerusalem Post*. "If we receive leaders from the Likud, does it mean we are interfering with the election? If we are receiving the Labor Party, does it mean that we are supporting it?"

Bassiouny said Egypt's strategy is to support a comprehensive peace settlement between Israel and its Arab neighbors. He said the talks between Osama Baz, senior political adviser to President Hosni Mubarak, and the heads of several Israeli Arab parties concerned their views on the peace process, as well as political developments in Israel.

"Egypt is only dealing with the government which the people of Israel elects," Bassiouny said. "We signed the peace with Likud, and we dealt with the Likud government. The people voted for Labor, and now we deal with Labor. But at the same time, now, when I meet [Binyamin] Netanyahu, does it mean that I deal against the Labor Party? Absolutely not."

Jerusalemites protest Bethlehem autonomy

HUNDREDS of Gilo residents protested yesterday at the IDF checkpoint between Gilo and Bethlehem. The bipartisan rally following reports that Bethlehem may be among the next areas turned over to the Palestinian Authority. *Bill Hutman*

Cabinet okays official probe of missing Yemenite children

HERB KEINON

THE cabinet yesterday decided to set up an official commission of inquiry to look into the disappearance of Yemenite children between 1948 and 1954.

The decision comes jus' three weeks after an inquiry headed by Judge Moshe Shalgi presented its report on the matter, six years after it was commissioned.

The main finding of the Shalgi panel was that 75 of the 505 Yemenite children whose disappearance was investigated were not accounted for, but that there was no indication they were victims of illegal adoption or other criminal activity.

Despite the Shalgi Report, the Public Committee for Yemenite Immigrants has for months been calling for a commission of inquiry that has wider investigative powers, including the right to subpoena witnesses.

The Yemenite community has long claimed that children of new Yemenite immigrants were stolen from hospitals and children's homes during the first years of the state and adopted by childless Holocaust survivors.

The Shalgi committee found no basis to these claims, but its findings were not widely accepted in the Yemenite community.

2 killed on roads

A MAN was killed and a woman was injured when the car they were riding in hit several horses on the Coastal Road near Kfar Vitkin and overturned yesterday. The horses had escaped from a nearby farm. Meanwhile, Halil, 47, of Kafr Manda, was killed when a car hit him as he crossed the Neveh Yemin-Jaljulya road. (Itim)

Court upholds detention order for terror suspect

THE Nazareth District Court yesterday upheld an order placing Jassen Mohammed Hassan Othmala, 32, of the Israeli Arab village of Kafr Reneh, under administrative detention for three months. Othmala is suspected of receiving orders from the Abu Moussa group to carry out a serious terror attack in Israel.

Othmala's attorney challenged the order in court two weeks ago, claiming it was invalid, since it had been signed by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and not by Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin [who was out of the country]. Judge Yehuda Abramovitz rejected the appeal, saying that Peres had assumed all of Rabin's authority in his absence. (Itim)

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Palestinian policemen give a Nazi salute as part of their swearing-in ceremony in Jericho last week. (Zoom 77 courtesy of 'Yediot Aharonot')

UN tries to overcome Bosnia truce obstacles

PALE (AP) – The UN commander in Bosnia met the Serb military leader yesterday to try to overcome obstacles holding up a four-month truce implementation.

Bosnian Serbs surrounding Sarajevo say they won't allow access to the besieged capital, as required by the truce, until government forces withdraw from a demilitarized zone on strategic Mt. Igman south of the city.

UN sources said Serbs expanded that demand Friday, insisting troops of the Moslem-led government also give up positions gained in an offensive last fall.

On Saturday, UN officials accused the Bosnian Serbs and the Moslem-led government army of foot-dragging on the cessation of hostilities agreement that took effect Jan. 1.

Peacekeepers had confirmed Saturday that government soldiers had left two of the three remaining areas of contention on Igman and were to check the third yesterday, UN officials said.

Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander, met Bosnian Serb Gen. Ratko Mladic on Mt. Jahorina, about 10 km south of the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Pale.

A UN source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Rose would try to talk the Serb military commander out of insisting on additional government withdrawals.

In Sarajevo, aid flights resumed after a brief halt Saturday. Flights were suspended after bullet holes were found in two UN planes.

It wasn't clear whether the bullets that hit the planes were a deliberate attack. UN spokesman Michael Williams suggested the incident might be the result of Serb celebratory fire marking the Orthodox Christmas, which was Saturday.



Chechen fighters help a comrade who was wounded by a round of artillery that landed near Grozny's presidential palace yesterday. (AP)

Chechens hold central Grozny

GROZNY (Reuter) – Chechen rebels were clinging to the center of their capital Grozny yesterday, despite being pinned down by intense Russian shelling.

Fierce Russian attacks at the bridge over the Sunzha stopped reporters three blocks away from the presidential palace and avenue, but fighters said they were still in Chechen hands.

"Nothing's changed really," said Said Umarov, a 20-year-old soldier leaving the central square. Its presidential palace has been the symbol of resistance to Moscow since Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev unilaterally declared independence in 1991.

"Russian troops are about 800 meters from the palace in a suburb just north of the center – and around the railway station," Umarov added.

Grozny's main Avturkhanova Avenue, normally teeming with groups of soldiers, was almost deserted by midday, as were parallel streets and alleyways.

Occasional soldiers in ones and twos scurried along it, but most Chechen movement in and out of the central square over the bridge was cut off.

The injured were being transported from the center, some in private cars and others in armored personnel carriers captured from Russia and now flying the green, red and white Chechen flag. One dead soldier lay in an armored personnel carrier.

Several soldiers reported Russian troops had attacked in force on Saturday afternoon from the railway station, about 1.5 km south of the presidential palace. The attack had been repulsed, they said.

Umarov said the attack came at about 3 p.m.

"We captured a tank and more than 40 prisoners," he said.

In Moscow, a Russian Defense Ministry spokesman confirmed fighting was continuing.

"Federal troops are holding steady in Grozny and are cleansing the railway station...of Dudayev's gunmen," the spokesman told Itar-Tass news agency.

Official Russian reports have been unreliable since Moscow sent troops into the separatist region on December 11 to crush its three-year independence bid.

The Defense Ministry representative said Russian troops had yesterday continued splitting up Dudayev detachments and purging districts of Grozny of snipers and sabotage groups.

He also said humanitarian aid was being given to the local population in "freed" districts of the Chechen capital, which were being run on a strict pass regime.

The representative denied reports of the forthcoming transfer into Chechnya of units of naval infantry from Russia's Northern fleet and said "there are no orders for anything of this kind."

Russian troops apparently changed tactics in Grozny at the weekend after suffering heavy losses. Instead of trying to take Grozny with tanks, they were instead destroying the city block by block.

Evicted family reaches compromise with Agency

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE saga of an Ethiopian family which was evicted from the Mevasseret Zion absorption center came to a happy ending last night.

The Tronich family, which arrived four years ago, signed an agreement with the Jewish Agency to buy an apartment within a month and was readmitted to the center.

Earlier in the day, the eight members of the family, accompanied by a dozen minors from the absorption center, had begun marching the 10 kilometers to Jerusalem. They decided, however, to give up their protest half way, and returned to the grass outside the absorption center where they had been staging a demonstration since Thursday night.

Like other Ethiopian families, the Tronichs were given an extended period of one year to spend in the protected environment of the center. Jewish Agency Aliya Department director Arnon Mantver said yesterday. When their time was up...they were offered the option of buying an apartment on special terms – a loan of $107,000, 98 percent of which was a grant and the remainder had to be returned at the rate of NIS 140 a month.

"Gete Tronich, the father, is employed in construction and also receives help from the National Insurance Institute, and we made sure he would be able to pay that sum," Mantver, who personally handled the case, said. He said the agency also proposed other options, such as a hotel.

The offers were turned down and the agency went to court, charging that the space was needed for newer immigrants. On Thursday, the court ruled that the Tronich family could be evicted. The family chose to camp out on the lawn outside the center.

Last night, after protracted negotiations, Tronich signed an agreement – underwritten by the Unified Ethiopian Jewish Organizations – to buy a new apartment within a month, and the family was allowed to stay at the center.

Taxmen nab sixth farmer for evasion

RAINE MARCUS

ANOTHER farmer suspected of swindling tax authorities out of hundreds of thousands of shekels faced a remand hearing in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday, bringing the number up to six.

Yitzhak Kalkuda, of Kfar Truman, who raises cattle, allegedly failed to report sales of dairy products and veal, said Income Tax Authority investigator Yosef Spiro.

Kalkuda was released on NIS 700,000 bail and barred from leaving the country.

According to Dairy Board regulations, farmers are allowed to sell a specified amount of milk. Anything above this is subject to fines.

Spiro said that Kalkuda sold tens of thousands of liters of milk on the black market over a five-year period, and failed to pay taxes on these sales.

Last week, five other farmers were arrested for similar offenses.

Meanwhile, a businessman suspected of failing to declare earnings to tax authorities was released on NIS 100,000 bail by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

Investigators said Tsadok Eliav allowed brothel owner Yossi Yefet to use his name for tax purposes when advertising his escort agency services. Yefet, said investigators, distributed forged invoices to other businessmen, including Eliav, to avoid paying taxes.

Eliav then processed the invoices, although he had received neither services nor products in return.

Milk prices rise by 3.5%

Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur yesterday signed an order raising the prices of milk and milk products 3.5% as of today. The last raise was a year ago. Goat's milk products were raised 6.6%.

Among the new prices are:
1 liter of milk – NIS 2.72
Plain yogurt – 98 agorot
100 gm. butter – NIS 1.70
9% white cheese – NIS 3
9% cottage cheese – NIS 3.35
chocolate yogurt – NIS 1.04

Man decapitated by elevator

NEW YORK – A 54-year-old clerk at a Bronx welfare office was decapitated Friday when he helped a female co-worker off an elevator and it suddenly lurched upward, lifting his body off the floor and catching him by the neck, police said.

Chenault's severed head – Walkman headphones still attached – rolled onto the elevator floor as those who had been riding with him screamed in horror. The three passengers cried out as the elevator rose to the ninth floor, where the two men and a woman were stuck for about five minutes until freed by police and other building workers, witnesses and police said.

Chenault's headless body toppled into the open elevator shaft and fell 20 feet to the bottom, where it was found in a sitting position.

"It happened too fast for anyone to try and help him," said Emergency Service Unit Sgt. Robert Nolan.

The gruesome specter of the severed head traumatized scores of workers in the building, which was closed for the day after police stopped all elevators. (Newsday)

Congress targets foreign aid

WASHINGTON (AP) – Republicans in Congress want to cut America's already shrunken foreign aid program. A struggle is expected over where and how much to trim.

No countries are singled out. In fact, the Republicans' "Contract With America" doesn't call for aid cuts, but they want to stick to the manifesto's dictum: "The spending madness must stop."

Of $13.85 billion available this year, Israel is due to get $3b. and Egypt $2.15b. These are the two largest recipients.

But many Americans have a distorted view of how much of their money is spent abroad. A poll on the night of the Nov. 8 election showed 27 percent of voters saying that foreign aid makes up the biggest share of the federal budget. Not by a long shot.

If Congress were to abolish foreign aid, federal spending would go down about 1 percent. Of 21 major donor countries, the United States devotes the smallest percentage of its total income for foreign aid. Denmark, at the top of the list, gives about seven times as much as the United States in relation to the size of its economy.

Sri Lankan-Tamil rebels truce holds

COLOMBO (AP) – A provisional truce between Sri Lanka's government and Tamil rebels held through its first day and enemy commanders exchanged greetings over their radios.

As the guns fell silent, the rebels announced resumption of a ferry service in a hitherto prohibited lagoon from today. It will link the rebel-held northern Jaffna Peninsula with the mainland after a gap of four years.

"There have been no reports of any fighting," Brigadier Nahil Jayakody, the military spokesman in Colombo, said yesterday, 18 hours after the cease-fire took effect at midnight.

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In the morning we'll have tours, afternoons are for relaxation, and evenings for lectures and to do as you please.

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4 days/3 nights

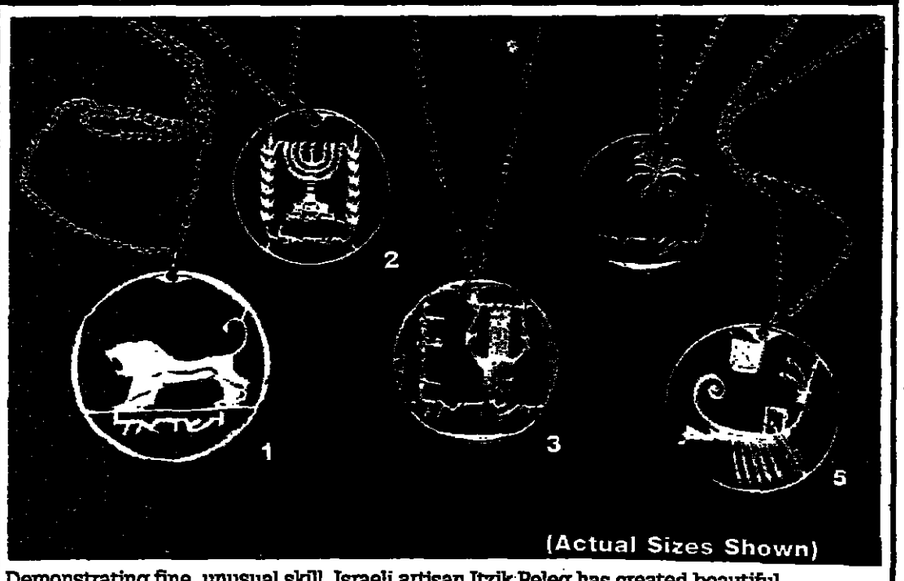
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Great-granddaughter to: Irene and Abraham Grandes
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Margalit Shimshi-Druyanov

December 25, 1994

25

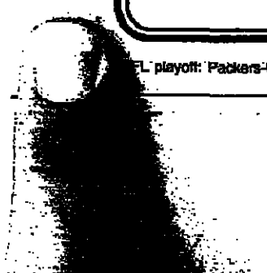
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NFL playoff: Packers-Cow- ... Wrestling Federation. ... ed," said pitcher Jack McDowell, dealt to the New ... says his team won't use replacements.

هكذا من الأصل

صكذا من الاصل

Dance series: A capital idea

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

AFTER a long drought of dance subscription series, suddenly this year there are two new and attractive offerings – one with a clear international outlook; the other a much smaller venture.

One takes place in the new Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center, where the Frankfurt Ballet performed last month and where the Stuttgart Ballet visits next.

The other takes place in Jerusalem, where for many years dance was virtually an underground art form.

Sharona Kerpel, dance manager at the Bama Theater in Jerusalem, is excited about the new series, which offers a choice of four different dance events from a selection of seven, for NIS 105.

Entitled "Contemporary Dance Subscription," the series has a clear Jerusalem slant. "We want to emphasize the dance that emerges from Jerusalem, or dance works by people who originally came from the city," says Kerpel.

She strongly believes that a Jerusalem style of modern dance is slowly emerging: "It is a very pure style of dance, refined dancing devoid of theatrical elements and props which are more common in Tel Aviv."

Kerpel hopes the series will lead more Jerusalem dancers and choreographers to feel that there is a place for them to work in the city: "We want to create another place for contemporary fringe dance in Israel aside from Suzanne Dellal."

There is also the hope of future collaboration between the two. "Our annual budget is a third of what Suzanne Dellal got for a one-week dance festival in the fall," says Kerpel. "There can be no comparison on this level whatsoever. But I sincerely hope they will collaborate with us. We appreciate what they do and we present some works which initiated there. We only hope that they will also present works emerging from Jerusalem."

Though Yaron Margolin and Amos Hetz have been working in the capital for many years, neither is featured in the new series. "We approached them but they were not interested," Kerpel notes. "They want to work in their own, very individual way."

The series opens tonight at the Gerard Behar Center with a performance of *Vertigo*, by Jerusalem's hottest dance duo in a long time, Noa Wertheim and Adi Sha'al, who also perform internationally.

Later this month, Jerusalem dancer/choreographer Amir Kolben presents the premiere of his latest work, *Casablanca*, in which he uses footage from the famous film on video.

Other performances at Gerard Behar within this series are Nimrod Freed's *Red Line*, originally conceived for Tel Aviv Museum, and Noa Dar's *Heads in the Grass*. Neither is a premiere or specifically related to Jerusalem. But, notes Kerpel, "Dar's work will be a Jerusalem premiere and it is important to remember that local dance buffs do not always travel to see new work in Tel Aviv."

The works being presented at the Bama are more intimate and usually improvisational. This Saturday, for example, Arie Burstein presents a new improvisational evening.

Later this month, dancer Anat Shamgar and jazz musician Jean Claude Jones feature another of their series of "Composition in Real Time" evenings in which they invite guest artists to jam with them. And next month features a premiere of three new works in an evening entitled "Song Dance at the Bama" – two by Kerpel, the other by Ronit Feingold.

A lurid story of sex and taxes

FILM REVIEW

ADINA HOFFMAN

EXOTICA

★★★½

Directed and written by Atom Egoyan. Hebrew title: *Exotica*. 105 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.

Francis ..... Bruce Greenwood
Christina ..... Mia Kirshner
Thomas ..... Don McKellar
Zoe ..... Arsinée Khanjian

KINK is a relative term in Atom Egoyan's hypnotic *Exotica*. Set in and around a striptease parlor and an exotic pet shop, the film itself is fashioned as a slinky dance, a gradual, bump-and-grind revelation of the charged nature of everyday things.

Writhing women in G-strings are the least of the film's hang-ups. Customs inspection, a tax audit, ticket-scalping, baby-sitting – the most mundane rituals become lurid in this context, hilariously perverted by their place in the chain of bizarre events. Only in such a fetishistic force field could two hyacinth macaw eggs achieve cult status, encased in the strangely glowing temple of their plastic incubator.

Funny and unsettling, the movie is a disturbing mystery whose solution requires us to untangle the illicit links between characters. And in Egoyan's gleefully warped scheme, no other links seem possible. His people are bound to each other as they are sometimes split apart: by webs of secret alliance and subterranean longing.

Francis (Bruce Greenwood), a sad-eyed tax official, spends his days auditing, that is, sifting through the private records of total strangers. Currently, he's investigating Thomas (Don McKellar), a nervous pet-shop manager with thick bottle glasses and an illegal sideline in tropical-bird smuggling.

By night, Thomas picks up men at the ballet and Francis arrives at the Exotica, where Christina (Mia Kirshner) is his special table dancer. Dressed in tartan kick pleats, garters and a schoolgirl scarf, Christina sucks her thumb and gyrates for Francis as a curvy child-woman. Later, she disappears backstage where she's involved in a complex relationship with Eric (Elias Koteas), the club's beautiful, angry disc jockey.

Eric, meanwhile, hasn't told Christina about the contract he's signed to father the child of Zoe (Arsinée Khanjian), the elegant owner of the Exotica. Ensconced in her richly upholstered boudoir, her stomach swollen beneath her silk robe, Zoe looks like a cross between the Madonna and the lusty madame of some wild-west bordello.

(The fact that the actress was carrying Egoyan's own child during filming would be irrelevant except that it fits so perfectly the movie's obsession with hidden identities – one that makes especially good sense when you consider what must be the Cairo-born, Canadian-bred, Armenian-descended director's own complicated menagerie of personae.)

And there are still other pieces to this puzzle: the recurrent memory of a seemingly idyllic walk through a golden field, Francis's sullen wheelchair-bound brother and his teenage daughter who has a relationship with her uncle Francis which is surely one of the most peculiar and unsettling in the film.

Then again, almost all of *Exotica* is peculiar and unsettling. Egoyan's gift lies in his ability to unnerve as he lulls us. The night-club's lush rain-forest decor is suffused in a spooky blue light, and as the movie progresses we become almost numb to the constant presence of a dull drumbeat in the background. Taking his atmospheric cue from the fantastic strip-club setting, Egoyan relies on Far Eastern grunge music, plastic lily pads and a dissociative chain of remembered images to create the sultry mood. In a dangerous step toward the over-symbolic, one-way mirrors stud the walls of the Exotica, reflecting odd pictures as they show what lies beyond.

It's not especially surprising in a movie about perversion, but Egoyan is always flirting with a calculated kind of badness. That is, in order to depict the sordid world in which these characters live, he feels compelled to indulge in dramatic grotesqueries which may test the patience of some viewers. Fortunately, the director's relation to his operatic subject matter – desire, secrecy and alienation – is connected at the hip to rueful humor.

Oddly, the movie's network of desperately twisted characters calls to mind another dark Canadian picture, Denys Arcand's *Love and Human Remains*, which played in last year's Jerusalem Film Festival. The semblance between the two movies is so uncanny, in fact, that together they might constitute a mini-movement. For lack of a better title, I'll call it the School of Canadian Concupiscence, and recommend both films.



Christina (Mia Kirshner) is the special table dancer for Francis (Bruce Greenwood), a sad-eyed tax official. (Johnnie Eisen)

Saying no to sleaze: This bass isn't base

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

SOME years ago, Italian bass-baritone Ferrucio Furlanetto received an offer many couldn't refuse.

"I can write a very good review of your performance, but it will cost you," said the voice at the other end of the line.

Furlanetto wasn't totally surprised. "The corruption in Italy is not exclusive to politicians. It exists in all aspects of life, and in the arts as well," says the 45-year-old singer.

Although he believes honest musicians can resist such offers, Furlanetto says there are some who are willing to pay for such "additional public relations."

Fortunately for Furlanetto, his voice was good enough to carry his career without outside help.

Today, he sings regularly in leading opera houses all over the world, and is currently appearing in the New Israeli Opera's production of Verdi's *Nabucco*.

He sings the role of Zaccaria, the high priest who is banished from his homeland with his people. "It's one of my best Verdi roles. It's a pure vocal role."

The opera itself, he acknowledges, is rather static. "You are blocked by the music and cannot really act in *Nabucco*. Many directors avoid this opera because the only thing to do in it is move the chorus. Also, the singers who sing this repertoire are not exactly flexible, like the big names who sing comedies. These operas are meant just to be heard and less to be watched."

Although *Nabucco* is often dubbed Verdi's "Jewish" opera, Furlanetto has a different perspective. "You have to realize that for us in Italy it was written in a very special political moment. It's easier for us to think of it in terms of an ideological conflict against the Austrians. It was absolutely meant to be a political opera."

Zaccaria differs from the role in which Furlanetto made his local debut about seven years ago, as the womanizer Don Giovanni in Mozart's opera of the same name.

Furlanetto is one of the most sought-after Giovannis–worldwide. So, when conductor Herbert von Karajan asked him to perform the role of Leporello, Giovanni's servant, in Salzburg less than a decade ago, he was a bit taken aback.

"After you do many Giovannis and suddenly somebody – and it's not just somebody but [von Karajan] – asks me for Leporello, I asked why. But I understood he wanted a Leporello who really looked like the Don and he wanted two dark voices.

"In a way it was important," Furlanetto concedes. "I was lucky enough, because he let me do what I wanted, and I was so happy to go back to the Don after that, because I saw him from another perspective."

Today, Furlanetto lives in the countryside between Venice and the Austrian border, but he spends most of his time traveling and performing. "This is the time of my life in which I spend only a few days at home in between changing bags. But this is the time to do it."

Furlanetto sings Zaccaria at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center until January 21.

Nine plays go beyond the 'fringe'

HELEN KAYE

MOSHE Ivgi is a star who could write his own ticket at any theater in the country. Jamie Sherman-Marcu is a director who's making her professional debut. What they have in common is the annual "Original Play Week," which opens on Saturday at the Simta Theater in Jaffa.

Ivgi – star of the movies *Shuru*, *The Vengeance of Itzik Finkelstein* and *Max and Morris* – is playing ambitious computer genius Yossi Moran in Ben Avner Hecht's debut play *Autostrada*.

Hecht, who's just come home after five years studying theater at Berkeley, says his play is about an ambitious yuppie who keeps bumping into the society in which he's trying to be upwardly mobile.

Ivgi doesn't talk about his part but about what he feels is the obligation he has to promoting Israeli playwriting in general and fringe theater in particular.

He says "fringe theater is important as an alternative to repertory theater, which has become fat and complacent."

Israeli fringe usually means not theatrical innovation but rather mostly conventional plays which don't get to mainstream theater stages.

This year, "Play Week" offers five staged readings and four full productions, each of which will have four performances in one of Simta's two theaters.

Autostrada is one. The others are *Ring Ceremony* by Ron Yeshua, *Motke Antelope* by Amos Ever Hadani and Omri Yavin, and *Eye and Eyeless* by Mati Regev.



The American-born Jamie Sherman-Marcu will make her professional debut.

The drama deals with a sighted loser whose incursion into the serene existence of two blind women and a man upsets the balance of all their lives, and it's the one that Sherman-Marcu is directing.

"I chose the play because it talks about people who turn themselves into victims, and in our society we'd rather not talk about people like that," says the 28-year-old American-born director who got a degree in theater from Tel Aviv University in 1992.

"I realized that I wanted to direct when I found that what fascinated me most was the way a play was put together."

She approached Simta artistic director Niko Nitai, says Sherman-Marcu, because she had been assistant director at Simta and because "he's one of the few people in Israel who's willing to give a chance to unknowns."

Nitai has done this 11 years in a row. "I do it because it's the only way to give young artists and playwrights a voice outside the establishment," he says, putting his small NIS 120,000 budget where his mouth is.

One-time laywer turns life into a costume drama

HELEN KAYE

IF you see a tassel on a Judy Levin costume, chances are that not only did she sew it on herself, but that she made it to begin with.

It's the sort of picky detail that a Levin costume is famous for, and the word is out that if it's period design a show is after, then she's the one to turn to.

Tassels were big just before World War I, and that's the period Levin chose for the utterly gorgeous costumes she's designed to go with Saul Radomsky's set for the farce *An Absolute Turkey* by Georges Feydeau (1862-1921).

The Habimah production, directed by the UK's Roger Smith, opens on Saturday at Theater North just outside Haifa.

"It's my favorite period," she says, and laughingly adds: "My favorite period is always that of the show I'm designing for."

Like all Feydeau farces, *Absolute Turkey* is about extramarital high jinks in and around the bedrooms of the French bourgeoisie.

In this one the spirited Mme. Vatelin (Rama Messinger) tells hubby Ohad Shahar that if he ever even *thinks* of taking a mistress, she will at once take a lover.

This being Paris, there are, of course, two panting in the wings, playboy Redillon (Natan Datner) and family buddy Pontagnac (Dov Reiser).

Naturally all move to a hotel (all those essential doors and corridors) and equally naturally all ends happily "because in every Feydeau farce the proper moral virtues always win out in the end," Levin says.

Levin trained as a set designer at Croydon College in London – costume was part of the package, she says – but feels her approach to costume has enhanced her understanding of set design.

"I see each costume as a mini set, because we convey so much of ourselves through our personal appearance. What we wear, what we carry around with us tells a very full story."

Her own story begins in Jerusalem.

Levin's great- grandfather was Yoel Moshe Salomon, one of those who settled outside the walls of the Old City at the end of the 19th century and built Nahalat Shiva.

Her parents, both now deceased, met in London; her father, Avraham Levin, was studying law there.

Levin followed in her father's footsteps. "But although I was called to the bar, I've never practiced. I went into theater instead," she says.

This was after she'd collected diplomas from the Bezalel Art School and New York's Fashion Institute of Technology, and been head of design at Maskit for several years.

She credits director Leonard Schach with nurturing her love for theater. "From the word go I was always working with my hands, whether it was decorating boxes to give as gifts, making greeting cards, even printing fabric. Nobody taught me. I just did it."

What tipped the scales was a book on opera in which she discovered that designer Gunther Schneider-Siemsen, who had worked with Herbert von Karajan, ran a summer design school in Salzburg.

Schneider invited her to design for his Salzburg Marionette Theater.

"They wanted to keep me, but I wanted to come home," says Levin.

In her first local show she designed costumes for Strindberg's *The Father* at Habimah. "It was [the late designer] Moshe Sternfeld who persuaded them to hire me. I owe him a lot."

Since that time she's designed for most of the repertory theaters. But what might be called the big break came when Jonathan Miller tabbed Levin to do costumes for *The Magic Flute* he did with the Israel Philharmonic.

On the strength of that show, Miller invited her to do the costumes for his production of *The Coronation of Poppea* at the prestigious Glimmerglass Opera in the US last summer. They were such a hit that in July they'll be exhibited at Kent State University, which has a famous costume collection.

This summer Levin will go back to Glimmerglass to work with Miller on *Tamerlano*, and with Swedish director Peter Stormmayer on *Don Giovanni*.

Costume design involves much research. "I read horizontally," she says. "That means that a book on one subject will lead to another, and so I'm liable to be reading half a dozen books at once on any given subject.

"Come to think of it," she says, "that is very much the way legal research and reading works."

Omanut La'am taps new manager

RAFI Kenan will head Omanut La'am (Art for the People) from March 1. The unanimous OLA board decision was announced last Thursday culminating a search which began after Danny Alter resigned as general manager last August.

"He has the qualities necessary for success in OLA. He has a profound understanding of the arts and is very community-minded," said OLA board chairman and acting general manager Moshe Bar-Yuda, who had nominated Kenan.

Kenan, 49, who returned six months ago after serving as cultural counselor at the Israeli Embassy in Paris, was deputy artistic director of the Israel Festival from 1987 to '90. Prior to that he was a senior news editor with *Ha'aretz* for 11 years. He started his professional life as an actor/singer and songwriter.

Helen Kaye

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Heil whom?

A COUPLE of months ago, Israelis were perturbed by slogans shouted during the graduation exercise of the Palestinian Police school in Jericho. Their disquiet was understandable. Here were new policemen, in the service of the Palestinian Authority after the signing of what was presumably a peace agreement with Israel, vowing to liberate Jerusalem, Haifa, Ashdod, and Beit She'an, all in Green Line Israel.

When asked about these battle cries – hardly the kind that encourage peaceful coexistence or recognition of Israel's legitimacy – Palestinian leaders said the slogans were obsolete, used only because new ones had not yet been formulated.

Last week another police class was graduated in Jericho. A photograph of that class, published in the Hebrew daily *Yediot Aharonot* and in this paper today, speaks louder than shouted slogans. Nattily dressed and standing at rigid attention, the new policemen were giving their commanders the Nazi salute. It will be a little difficult to accept an explanation that this is an obsolete salute, used only because a new one has not yet been formulated.

The "heil" salute is a Nazi signature. Unlike the goose-step and other mannerisms adopted by Hitler's troops, it is used by no army or police force in the world today. Members of illegal Nazi gangs, the "skinheads" who burn down immigrant workers' homes in Germany, flaunt it. But the only uniformed force in the world to use this salute is the Palestine Police, commanded by Jibril Rajoub, a faithful Arafat lieutenant and a regular guest at the home of at least one government minister.

The Palestinians know all too well what the Nazi salute signifies. Their hero is the late mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin el-Husseini, the Nazis' ally. During World War II he helped Hitler recruit Moslems to the German army and drafted his own version of the "final solution" for Middle East Jews.

By adopting this salute, the Palestinians' police force is conveying the same message its slogans send: that their goal is to dismantle Israel and "liberate" all the land from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean. This has been the goal of the PLO ever since it was created. Only its tactics have changed, to include the pretense of pacific intentions.

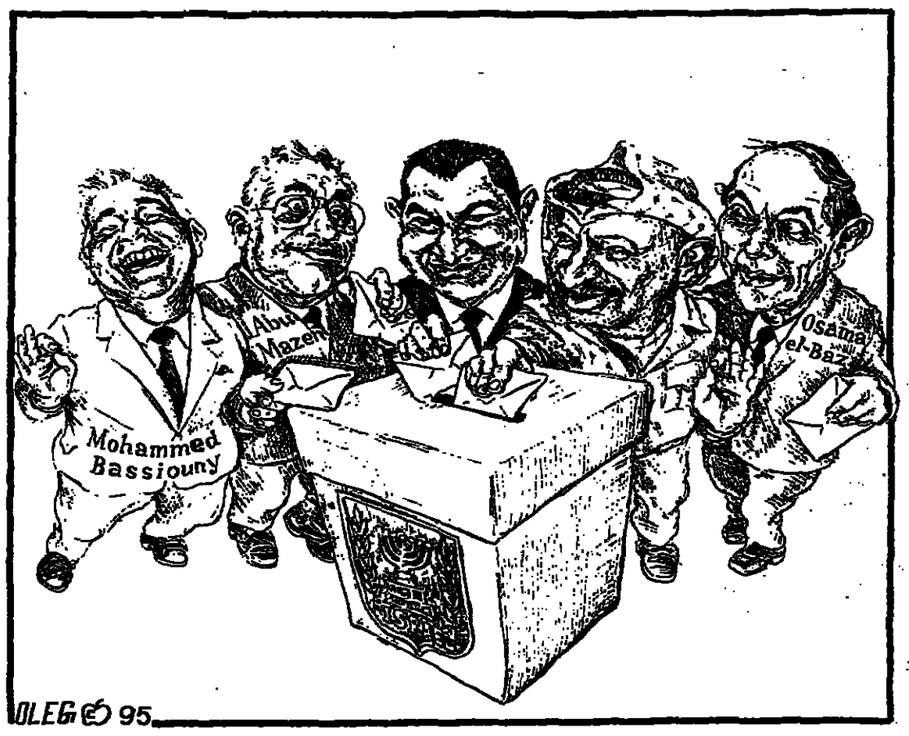
Policemen indoctrinated on "liberation" slogans and Nazi salutes can hardly be expected to be peaceful neighbors. In fact, only super-human restraint could keep such policemen from acting against Israelis. It is far more natural for them to do what they indeed regularly do: attack military and civilian Israeli targets in Gaza, and approvingly watch as armed Hamas demonstrators "reenact" the kidnapping of an Israeli soldier and burn Israeli and American flags.

Israel has not officially protested either the slogans or the Nazi salute. Nor has it questioned the growth of the Palestinian force from the agreed-upon 9,000 to 12,000 men. Even the Palestinian plan to import 1,500 trained Fatah cadres from Lebanon to add to the force is being treated with indifference. The government's rationale is that these are lightly armed men who are no match for the Israeli army.

By now it must be amply clear the original excuse for a "strong Palestinian police force" – that it would be used to suppress Islamic terrorists – is utterly invalid. If anything, the policemen, many of whom are Hamas members themselves, ensure the terrorist groups are protected from Israeli security forces.

If the Palestinian Police is now allowed to take control of Arab towns and villages in Judea and Samaria following the army's redeployment, they will afford the same protection to the terrorist cells in these areas. Instead of being on the run, hunted by the Israeli security forces and kept off-balance, terrorist units will be able to organize and to operate freely.

It is true, of course, that neither a large Palestinian police force, nor the Lebanonization of territories adjacent to Israel's population centers can threaten Israel's existence. But the impact on Israeli life of this new reality could be devastating. To invite the formation of such a force, which does not even bother to hide its ideology and intentions, is to display recklessness and irresponsibility unprecedented in Israel's history.



Casino fever

AARON SITTNER

GAMBLING casinos in Israel – why not?

That's the titillating proposition that keeps surfacing in the Knesset Economics Committee at least twice a year, like clockwork. And every time the idea is raised, proponents provide the committee with at least one "authority" to advocate the legalization of organized large-scale gambling in this country.

The expert witness at last week's committee hearings was Mayor Jan Jones of Las Vegas, who informed the MKs that the "improvement in the quality of life" in her city was due to the billions of dollars invested there by the gambling industry.

In reply to a question, Mayor Jones admitted that gambling casinos do attract organized crime, prostitution and drug use. But, she assured the committee, these doings "can be minimized by strict regulation."

The mayor's appearance before the committee was sponsored by Sheldon Adelson, a prominent Jewish businessman who heads the renowned Sands Hotel and Casino of Las Vegas.

Like Monte Carlo's Grand Casino, Sands is one of the world's foremost gambling centers whose patrons include – you guessed it – droves of Israelis.

As a friend of Israel eager to enhance its economy, this businessman is prepared to assist in the planning, construction and operation of spacious gambling casinos and hotel complexes here that would accommodate up to 20,000 patrons at a time.

Such enterprises would not only create jobs, he says. They would generate income for the state through taxation, reduce the number of Israelis traveling abroad to gamble and even "bring Israelis' black money to the surface."

Now, this well-intentioned entrepreneur may be a leading hotelier in his country. But he's no expert on the behavioral patterns of the typical Israeli.

FOR THE Israeli visitor to Las Vegas or the French Riviera, challenging the roulette wheel or winning at blackjack is only half the fun. The other half is the delightful trip overseas. Eilat may be nice – but Vegas it isn't.

As for the claim that organized state-sanctioned gambling here would "bring Israelis' black money to the surface" – wrong again! On this score, Las Vegas or Monte Carlo definitely have it over Eilat, Taba or any other place close to home.

Which Israeli tax cheat in his right mind would toss $100 bills at the Wheel of Fortune when the lady or gentleman rubbing elbows with him could be an agent of the income-tax authorities?

Mayor Jones may have a point about the enhancement of her town's quality of life as a result of gambling revenues.

But what "before" and "after" parameters did she, as chief executive, set when gauging the quality of life in Las Vegas?

Since the State of Israel isn't the City of Las Vegas, readings with respect to quality of life in this country could better be handled by homegrown authorities.

Here, for example, is what Yitzhak Navon, Israel's fifth president and erstwhile minister of education and culture, said when he learned that his friend and party comrade Finance Minister Avraham Shohat supports the idea of a gambling casino in Eilat:

"I shudder at the very thought of it! Like a tugboat, a gambling casino drags along with it all sorts of malignant social cargoes: narcotics, vice and organized crime.

"Does it pay for Israel to attract these irreversible scourges just for the few million dollars a casino would contribute to the Treasury?

"I hope that good sense will prevail and our government will reject the importation of yet another kind of moral contamination into this country."

The writer is a freelancer.

Cultist's view of peace

YEDIDYA ATLAS

OFRA Felix, murdered on Friday on the main road between Beit El and Shiloh, is only the most recent victim in the ongoing war being waged by Arab terrorists.

I had known "Ofraleh" – as we used to call her – since she was an infant. Her family have dedicated their lives to the Jewish people and to the State and Land of Israel. Ofra was imbued with this Jewish-Zionist spirit. Having done two years of voluntary national service, she was studying psychology at the Hebrew University.

It would compound the tragedy of her death were Ofra to become just another Jewish "victim of the peace process."

How many more Jews must die before Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres face up to the reality that their peace process is nothing but a sort of secular false messiah, on whose behalf they engage in lies and deceit?

I reject the contention of those who label Rabin a traitor. He is no Pétain. Rabin thinks he's doing the best for his country, that only he knows what needs to be done, and, moreover, that only he can do it.

But I cannot fathom Rabin's blind faith in Yasser Arafat, despite the PLO's clear culpability in continued terrorism. Government apologists in the local media try to exonerate Fatah by automatically blaming Hamas for any act of terrorism – as if there were any real difference.

The recent failed suicide bombing in Jerusalem, for example, was carried out by someone who was a member of Hamas as well as a member of the Palestinian Police.

> When security is subordinated to blind faith, things are grim

RABIN AND his leftist minority coalition government are committed to the current process with the PLO with all the fervor of cultists. The Peace Process Concept has become their religion, and rational analysis seems to form no part of their thought processes.

Last week's release of the bulk of the Agranat Commission's findings served as a reminder that, unfortunately, Israeli leaders have a history of not understanding our enemies, preferring to see them as other than what they are, even at the risk of national disaster.

In 1973, the government's arrogant confidence that there would be no Arab attack cost the lives of more than 2,000 soldiers. Can we afford the even worse debacle that may result from the arrogance of Rabin and Peres?

The Rabin government continues to negotiate with the PLO over control of Israel's historical heartland, the strategic high ground protecting the highly populated coastal plain and Jerusalem, and over primary water sources. If Palestinian autonomy (read: a PLO state) is implemented, Arafat will have achieved Phase One in the PLO's 1974 phased plan for destroying Israel.

Arafat has already broken an estimated 200 agreements. Yet Rabin and Peres seem sure that this time it will be different, even though Arafat has failed to meet any of his commitments to Israel from day one. (Tragically, Chamberlain, on his deathbed, lamented that World War II might have been avoided if only Hitler hadn't lied to him.)

The PLO Covenant has yet to be amended and terrorism has yet to be renounced. The PLO has a signed agreement with Hamas making Gaza a safe haven for active terrorist murderers. Arafat announced in a Johannesburg mosque that the agreement with Israel is only a ploy, implying that his signature on it is meaningless.

Only last week in Gaza, Arafat publicly declared his commitment to a PLO state with Jerusalem as its capital; while showing a map of all of western Eretz Yisrael, from the river to the sea.

Terrorist shootings and bombings have become daily occurrences, yet Defense Minister Rabin has cut back the IDF presence in Judea and Samaria, restricted its activities and allowed PLO activists to brandish automatic weapons openly.

This is the state of security while the IDF is still in command. What will it be like when Arafat and his people are in charge?

The writer is a Jerusalem-based freelancer.

> My son the croupier? It's no job for a nice Jewish boy in Israel

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE NEW SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY

Sir, – Much attention has been given in the press to the failures of the Rabin government in the security area. But the future of Israel is also endangered by the government's approach to the social framework of our society. As part of a new state philosophy, employment practices are adopted that betray Labor Zionism's call for an egalitarian society and contradict fundamental Jewish principles of social justice.

In the new Israeli society, management accepts no responsibility for the wellbeing of workers. Instead of recruiting new employees, organizations hire workers through manpower agencies, who earn less than the minimum wage, and are denied the rights and benefits of regular staff. Other employees lose their protection from arbitrary dismissal as they are given personal contracts that provide no job security – but these personal contracts also allow huge salaries to be paid to a select few. Denied influence in their organizations by recently hired managers, experienced workers pay the price of bad managerial decisions as they lose jobs when organizations down-size.

The Rabin government encourages the creation of a new managerial class. Not managers who build productive industrial and service organizations, but those appointed when organizations are at their finest. Managers in large organizations receive generous government support while entrepreneurs find it difficult to develop new firms. More and more, the managerial elite uses the profits of Israeli companies to invest in speculative enterprises in other countries instead of developing our own industrial base. Indeed, the government encourages undertakings in the Palestinian Authority that will compete with the employment of Israeli workers. The privileged few become richer, and the ranks of the poor swell.

Rabin believes in the power of marketing: the masses can be persuaded that the government represents their best interests. Reduced unemployment is proclaimed as providing jobs but many of the new positions are for unskilled work that provide few opportunities to advance in a career. A new national health law is advertised as solving our medical problems when there is to be an increase in taxes and a reduction in medical services. The attempt to eliminate the cost-of-living addition for workers is proclaimed as necessary for the fight against inflation but little is done to reduce luxury living. Workers in defense industries are told they must lose their jobs because of the reduction in the size of the market rather than the incompetence of their top managers. And privatization of governmental assets leads to higher profits for the oligarchy of Israeli society.

These employment changes are products of the Rabin government's drive to integrate into the Middle East. It is based on an acceptance of a regional culture where the strong dominate the weak. We need a society with more respect for our Israeli workers. It is time to change the government.

ALBERT I. GOLDBERG
Haifa.

MATERIAL FIT FOR LONDON TABLOIDS

Sir, – *The Jerusalem Post* was never – in my opinion – on a par with the world's leading newspapers. But it was for many years a respected newspaper whose leading articles were sober and intellectually satisfying.

Later the *Post* became a "sheet" which lost its importance as more and more other news sources became available in the country.

Now, finally, the *Post* has reached the stage of a "rag." Your Letters to the Editor column of December 29 prompts me to vent this, my long-held conviction. "Take the bus," one Scotty Goldberg exhorts the prime minister and foreign minister, calling Rabin and Peres "the Nobel Prize clowns."

In the same issue, the *Post* publishes an asinine column by one Netty Gross: "Could it happen?" The very same page is further burdened with the breathless prose of Messrs. Dan and Eisenberg, who produce material fit for the London tabloids but not for a newspaper wishing to be take seriously.

There must be a vast readership for this kind of articles and letters out there, the Scotty Goldbergs being members of a great big herd. I would not mind so much to let the Goldbergs have their fun, if only I had the choice of another newspaper in English.

Your editorials, editorial material and news evaluation simply don't make the grade anymore, which is a pity.

DR. BERTHOLD WYLER
Jerusalem.

As Dr. Wyler must know, our taste in letters is catholic. – *Ed. J.P.*

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

Sir, – Israel needs a ministry of information, not to explain government policy to Israelis, but to fight the propaganda war still being waged against Israel.

Israel has been oblivious to the propaganda onslaught being carried out against it throughout the world. The Arabs have invested much in that war and achieved great results in return for their efforts. They have managed to change people's perspective of the Arab-Israel conflict. Diaspora Jewry, a prime target of this war, has had to fight it alone while Israel seemed unaware of its existence.

We should not imagine that the propaganda war is over because of the recent peace agreements. The battle for Jerusalem has not really begun yet, but it soon will. After that will come the return of Arab refugees *en masse*. Impossible? Just imagine a time when the world bodies, the American Congress or the European Parliament feel that Jerusalem should be divided between Jew and Arab. They could certainly exert pressure on Israel which would be irresistible.

A ministry of information to explain Israel's position regarding Jerusalem and the refugees to the world is the best investment the Jewish people could make.

URI RABIN
Eilat (Redbridge, Essex).

STATUS OF WOMEN

Sir, – In her column *Grapevine* of December 9, Greer Fay Cashman reports that the Union of Local Authorities has created a new position – adviser on the status of women – and that the first appointee is Ilana Chernebroda, who serves in this capacity in the Haifa Municipality.

May I point out that, in her position as adviser to the mayor of Haifa, Ilana Chernebroda is an *unpaid* employee. For 15 years she has been doing a great job, and works long hours meeting with local women's organizations, trying to get municipal funding for the local Rape Crisis Center, the Hot Line for Battered Women, the Battered Women's Shelter, one-parent families etc.

It is a disgrace that to this day, the Haifa Municipality has not found funding to employ Ms. Chernebroda.

PIA BESSERMAN
Haifa.

Law that shackled the Bear

WILLIAM KOREY

THE late senator Henry M. Jackson would have welcomed an extraordinary, if indirect, testimonial to him made by President Boris Yeltsin at a Washington, D.C. lunch. The unreported episode merits relating on the 20th anniversary of the Jackson-Vanik amendment.

An audience invited by Vice President Al Gore and comprising the American foreign policy elite heard Yeltsin say on September 27, 1994, that every Russian schoolchild knows what the Jackson-Vanik amendment stands for.

What it had meant, of course, was the limitation of American trade benefits, notably most-favored-nation tariff treatment (MFN) and subsidized US Export-Import Bank credits, until Moscow removed obstacles to Jewish or general emigration.

Now that virtually all impediments to emigration have been removed, the Russian chief of state could bask in the glow of approbation.

What prompted senator Jackson to undertake his historic initiative was a secret decision of the Kremlin in August, 1972, to impose an exorbitant "diploma tax" clearly designed to halt the flow of Jewish emigrants to Israel which had begun only some 18 months earlier.

An emergency meeting of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry leadership was called in September, 1972, to respond to a brutal assault on international standards. Senator Jackson addressed the group and promised urgent legislative action. The following month, with the cooperation of senators Abraham Ribicoff and Jacob Javits, Jackson prepared a statute that would refuse trade benefits to a "non-market economy country" which denied its citizens the right to emigrate or which imposed more than a nominal tax on emigration. Three-quarters of the Senate joined Jackson as sponsors.

The tough-minded Washington senator would be obliged to reintroduce the statute on April 15, 1973, at the following legislative session. By then congressman Charles Vanik of Ohio had submitted (in February) similar legislation in the House of Representatives with 237 co-sponsors. The expression of America's conscience could not be more clearly sounded. Its impact was extraordinarily quick and positive.

> Jackson-Vanik: America's victory against a new serfdom

ON MARCH 21, 1973, Victor Louis, a Soviet journalist who had frequently acted as the mouthpiece of the KGB, announced that the "diploma tax will not be enforced any more." He acknowledged that the Kremlin decision was a result of congressional pressure and concluded that Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate "have won a victory in the six-month war against the education tax."

At great personal risk, Andrei Sakharov, the great scientist and humanist, wrote an "open letter" to the US Congress on September 14, 1973, urging that the Jackson-Vanik amendment be enacted into law.

In Sakharov's view, the amendment on the "minimal right" of emigration was absolutely essential for creating the required "mutual trust" needed to achieve detente. What Jackson-Vanik stood for, he said, was nothing less than a "policy of principle." Were Congress to reject it, it would be "a betrayal of the thousands of Jews and non-Jews who want to emigrate, of the hundreds in camps and mental hospitals, of the victims of the Berlin Wall."

On December 20, 1974, the Jackson-Vanik amendment was adopted by Congress, together with the Trade Reform Act to which it was attached. The legislation was signed into law by president Gerald Ford on January 10, 1975. One day after the congressional enactment, the Kremlin launched a vast media campaign attacking Jackson-Vanik.

Just a few years after the Kremlin's repudiation of Jackson-Vanik, it signaled clearly to Washington that it would welcome an agreement on most-favored-nation tariff treatment. In 1978, Soviet Jewish emigration jumped to 28,000, and in 1979 to an unprecedented 51,000.

While Moscow's main motivation for the removal of obstacles to granting exit visas was to win Senate approval of a SALT-2 agreement that was then being negotiated by the two superpowers, it was at the same time prepared to reach a new understanding on trade.

Thus, long before the massive recent exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel and the West, beginning in 1989, Jackson-Vanik had vividly demonstrated its great humanitarian value. No wonder that a major Twentieth Century Fund-sponsored study on international emigration practices lauded Jackson-Vanik as "the single most effective step the US has ever taken against the new serfdom (of emigration restrictions)...."

The writer was a leader in the struggle for Soviet Jewry.

Wrestling Federation. ... ed," said pitcher Jack McDowell, dealt to the New ... says his team won't use replacements.

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Mr. Speaker

Taking Power In the Age Of Defiance

By ADAM CLYMER

WASHINGTON

THE time of Newt began with soft words and hard votes, with a conciliatory, even humble speech from the new Speaker, and then a steamroller of 15 roll-call votes with not a single Republican defection over 14 hours.

But whether this lasts a moment, a season or an era depends not only on the determination, organization and intelligence of Newt Gingrich of Georgia, but even more on three historical factors over which he has little or no control.

The first of these, the policy goals he seeks, is something the academic-minded Mr. Gingrich has plainly thought about. If there is one goal of his movement, it is a government that spends less, and he readily acknowledges that cutting spending substantially will not be easy for Congress. The public wants the government shrunk, all right, but only the parts that affect the other guys.

The second, the atmosphere in which Congress works, is a factor the bomb-throwing politician has helped create. For more than a decade he threw grenades at the reputation of Congress — many of them supplied by the Democrats who were his targets. It is an open question whether the public has the patience, and the hope, to give the House back the public credit it requires to make hard decisions on issues like spending.

Questioning Authority

And the 50th Speaker of the House of Representatives is pre-eminently a product of the third element: an America far less obedient than it was the last time a Speaker claimed so much authority, in the days of Joseph Cannon of Illinois, who left office 84 years ago.

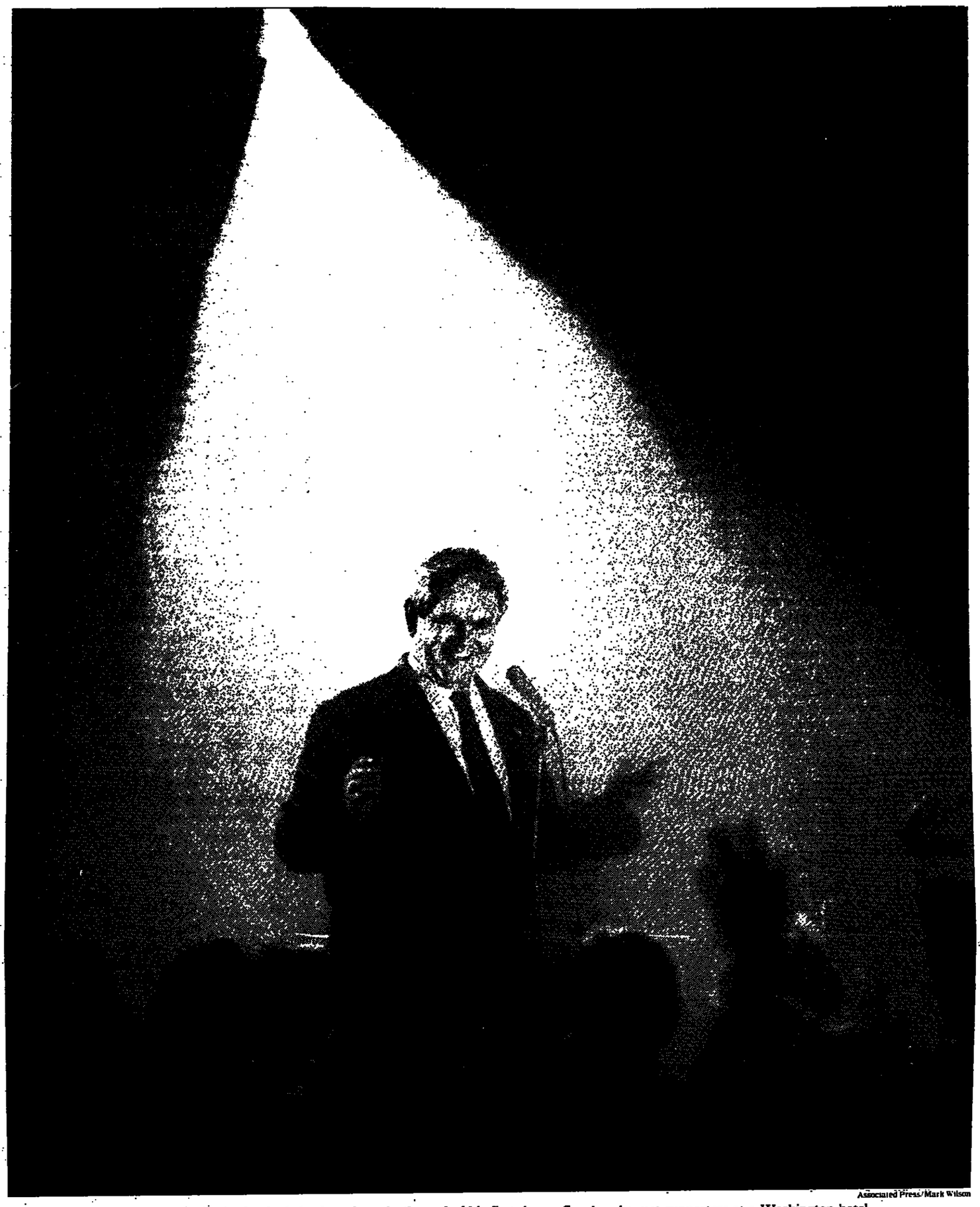
To continue the sort of success he showed last week, Mr. Gingrich will need a willingness to follow leaders that has been absent for years not only from Capitol Hill and party politics, but from schools, churches and offices across the country. The very fact that position counts for less was essential to Mr. Gingrich's scrabbling climb to power; now it casts a shadow over his ability to succeed in a lasting way.

He has displayed his power by picking committee chairmen without regard to seniority and exerting vast influence on committee assignments. He tells committee chairmen when to finish their bills, rather than listening to them explain why they can't.

For now he can exert authority, in ways Tom Foley never dreamed of, because House Republicans know they owe him their majority and their chairmanships. He won it for them, with his attacks on Democratic leaders, with his aggressive denunciation of the old regime as corrupt, with his fund-raising efforts and with the time he spent campaigning for them.

He has not had to demand much so far. That first day, the one that ended at 2:23 A.M. Wednesday, was symbolic. A series of reforms of House rules and customs, some important and some trivial, put out a message of hard-working new management, determined to make the place run more democratically and

Continued on page 2



Associated Press/Mark Wilson

Newt Gingrich now controls an institution he helped weaken. At the end of his first day as Speaker, he met supporters at a Washington hotel.

Behind the Chechnya Disaster

Leading Russia Into the Quagmire

By STEVEN ERLANGER

Moscow

AS Boris N. Yeltsin's "quick little war" in Chechnya turns into an Afghanistan-like quagmire — or, worse, a debacle putting the whole Russian leadership at risk — Russians aren't alone in wondering who actually decided to invade. Put another way, the question is: Who runs Russia?

Back in 1979, when the Soviet Union decided to invade Afghanistan, the plan went through the Politburo by a single vote, or so the story goes. There's less information on the war in Chechnya, in which hundreds, including a major general in the Interior Ministry, have died. Still, what follows is a reasonable guess.

From the decisions last summer to try to subvert Chechnya's secessionist leadership to the December invasion, this has not been a product of consultation by President Boris N. Yeltsin with democratically elected leaders. The operation has been run by the Security Council of the Russian Federation, a small group of unelected officials whose power resides in their personal ties to Mr. Yeltsin. The main members of the Council — the Defense Minister, the Interior Minister and the chief spy — report directly to Mr. Yeltsin.

At the same time, circling around Mr. Yeltsin are various aides and cronies who may not all sit on the council, but who have an important influence over his thinking, his appointments and his grasp of reality.

Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin (also unelected) sits on the Security Council too, but his role is hazy because he is really the boss of the economic and social tasks of the Government, not the military and security ones. And he has been distancing himself from the Chechnya war as fast as he can.

So who decided? A group that can be broken down to three parts: Mr. Yeltsin's aides and cronies, the generals and the spies. None of them has been elected to anything, though all are committed to a non-Communist and somewhat more democratic Russia.

THE FRIENDS OF BORIS. As Mr. Yeltsin has become more isolated politically, turning away from more liberal allies who supported him in his fight against the Communist Party, he has come to rely more and more on trusted loyalists, friends and associates from his earlier career. Many are from Sverdlovsk, now Yekaterinburg, where he was the party boss. They are people he knew intimately in a less harried time, who played and drank with him and stood by him as his own career zoomed, plunged then rocketed once more. And they stand by him now, when life is hard again.

If anything, the cronies represent Mr. Yeltsin's interests, feel it vital that he have strong lines to nationalist feeling and centrist politicians, and are relatively conservative economically.

Along with the generals and the spies, they are

Continued on page 3



Associated Press

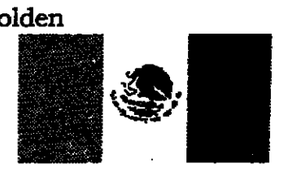
Russian bombs hammered the Chechen capital as Moscow newspapers questioned who was in charge of the disastrous campaign. Last week, Chechen civilians picked their way through the rubble of Grozny.

Fessing Up

Mexico stops believing its own propaganda.

By Tim Golden

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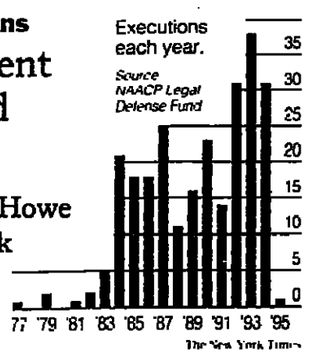


It Happens

Innocent — and dead.

By Sam Howe Verhovek

4



The Raise Is in the Mail

The economic tide is high, but paychecks remain beached.

By Louis Uchitelle

4

Leading in An Era of Defiance

Continued from page 1

efficiently.

Much of the agenda for the first 100 days is symbolic, too. When the House votes in 10 days or so on a Constitutional amendment to require a balanced Federal budget, that will be a statement of intentions. It will be late spring and summer when the first budget cuts have to be made. And even if the first ones are manageable, what about next year, when the Representatives face constituents who think the cuts have hurt them? Or the year after that, when they think it was their own accomplishments in office, not the Speaker's, that got them re-elected?

Norman J. Ornstein, the congressional scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, said the new Speaker's authority seemed solid for that 100 days. "Newt is like Moses; he took them out of captivity," Mr. Ornstein said.

But in the long run, another Speaker Cannon is improbable. In Cannon's days, Mr. Ornstein said, being disciplined by leaders was understood. "Today, it's not a part of our culture," he continued. "The sense of loyalty is just not there."

'In Your Face'

A former Democratic Congressman, Thomas J. Downey of Long Island, agreed. "This is very much the age of 'in your face.' It wasn't that way in Speaker Cannon's time. It was a far more civil and polite era. It's just harder to govern and harder to manage, with the flood of information — and misinformation."

Arthur Schlesinger Jr., the historian, said: "Gingrich appears to have achieved a kind of temporary discipline which is quite unusual. It's against the grain of the American party culture." He quoted one of the new Speaker's favorite authors, Alexis de Tocqueville, who wrote in 1835 that a lawmaker even then owed more to his own constituents than to his party. "Indiscipline is the chronic state of American parties," Mr. Schlesinger said.

Or, as Henry F. Bibby, a professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee observed: "The basic political system hasn't changed, in that every member is on his own for re-election. That is what limits party loyalty and loyalty to any party leader."

There is no reason to think that this will surprise Mr. Gingrich. He plans ahead, as he did for years in generating this victory, and as he has since Election Day in a transition managed far more skillfully than most exercises in transferring Presidential power.

But his ascent has left him with just about no good will at all among Democrats. Even some senior Republicans, the ones he brought to posts of authority, love the House more than he does, and wonder what he won't do for power. "A little good will can grease the process," said Richard F. Fenno, a political scientist at the University of Rochester. "There is an enormous amount of skepticism that he has to overcome."

> Gingrich's degree of command is surprising, nearly total and probably temporary.

He may be able to overcome some skepticism within the institution. He is trying, though his intermittent outbursts against Democrats, or the White House, or the press, make him resemble someone who knows he ought to quit smoking but can't.

A Tough Public

Overcoming the public's doubts may be harder. Mr. Gingrich said last week that Congress lacked the moral credibility to make revisions in Social Security financing and should wait a few years before even trying. It's not clear how much time the public will give him and his party. After all, it turned rather quickly on President Clinton, the last agent of change it put in office.

Solving financial problems and keeping the campaign promises is the best way to recapture public trust. But cutting spending means personal risk for Representatives, and when they begin to confront angry constituents, their will may weaken — but, as advocates of term limits and short careers, they may be more willing to take more chances than their elders would.

Moreover, even if leadership commands less followership than it used to, institutions still inspire some awe. "It's incredibly humbling to know that you are part of 208 years of history," said Representative Jon Christensen of Nebraska. "My mom and dad were sitting up in the balcony. They are ordinary farm people."



David Scull/The New York Times

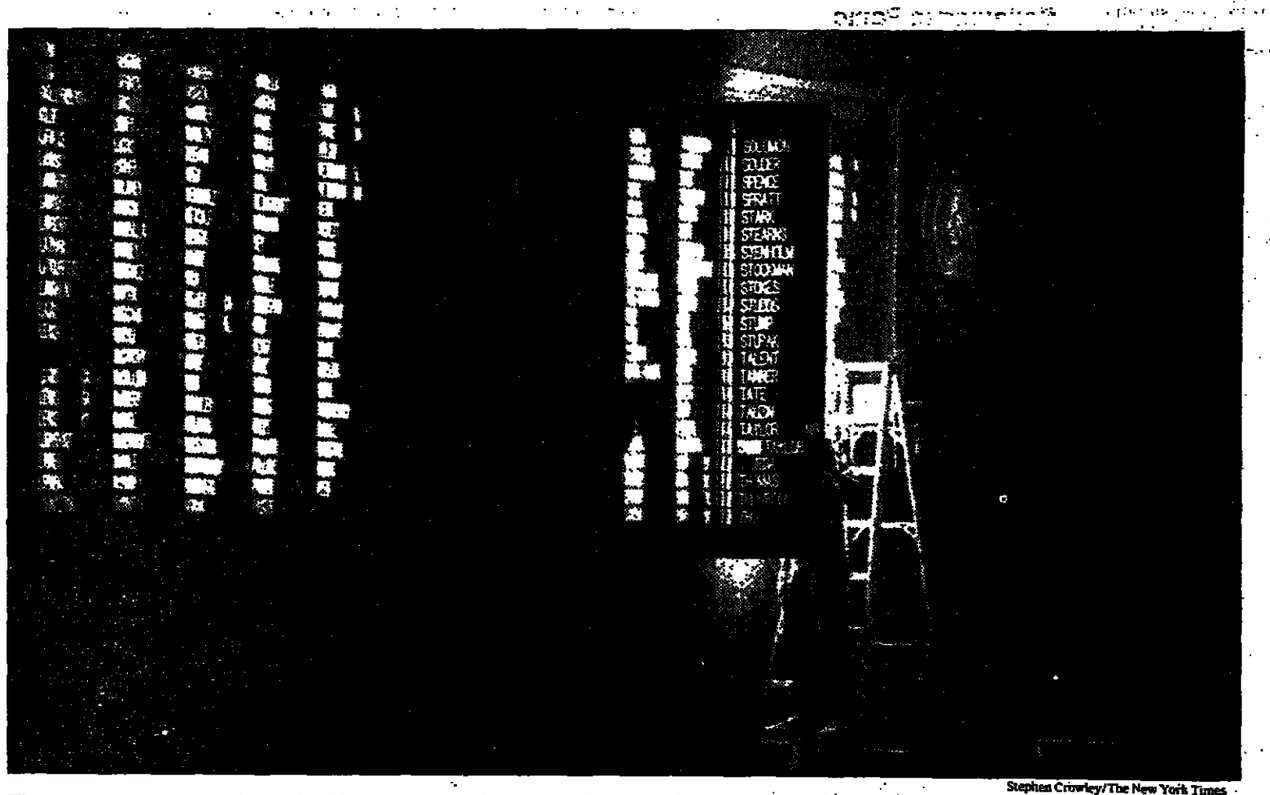
In the corridors of the Cannon Office Building last week, the signs of Republicans and Democrats trading places.

Signs of a New Agenda: A Jumble of Cartons, Euphoria and Attitude



David Scull/The New York Times

In transition: Senator Joseph R. Biden Jr., right, and his successor as Judiciary Committee chairman, Orrin G. Hatch.



Stephen Crowley/The New York Times

The new names, more than 100 of them, are set in place on the House voting roster in the first week of the 104th Congress.



Stephen Crowley/The New York Times

Greetings from the floor: Representatives Sonny Bono, left, and David Dreier, both of California, with Robert S. Walker of Pennsylvania. All three are Republicans. At bottom is Mr. Bono's son, Chesare.



David Scull/The New York Times

The Republicans installed themselves in bigger quarters, the ones relinquished by longtime occupants, in the Cannon office building last week. They marked their territory, too.

playoff: Packers-Cow... Wrestling Federation. ...ed," said pitcher Jack McDowell, dealt to the New ... says his team won't use replacements.

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صكذا من الاصل

The World

Mexicans Find Dreams Devalued

By TIM GOLDEN

MEXICO CITY

WITH dreams of new prosperity evaporating all around him, the young economist who became Mexico's President last month, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, said the time had come for people to hear the truth.

"The development of Mexico demands that we recognize with all realism that we do not constitute a rich country but a nation of grave needs and wants," he said.

In order to save his countrymen, Mr. Zedillo said in a televised address on Tuesday, he had to make them poorer, at least for a time. And like his adjustment of the peso's exchange rate, the sudden, official devaluation of Mexicans' place in the economic world may have been as imperative as it was awkward.

To people who had heard for six years that a bright future beckoned just beyond, the collapsing peso immediately brought back the specter of high inflation. The Government's plan to fix the problem and lure back foreign investors was also bitterly familiar: sharp spending cuts, astronomical interest rates, layoffs and privatizations.

> Mexico was a land of heady anticipation. Now its people have to bear the burden of reality.

Yet Mr. Zedillo's response also suggested that he had inherited new accountability along with an overvalued peso. Trade unionists who sat quietly by not long ago as the value of their wages plummeted fought surprisingly hard this time before signing on to the freeze that the Government demanded. Opposition leaders called for the head of Mr. Zedillo's predecessor and political mentor, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, and the 43-year-old President acknowledged quickly that he had entered a different political world.

By almost any measure, the situation remains less critical than those Mexico faced when it defaulted on its foreign debt in 1982 or when its stock market crashed in 1987. The state's role in the economy has been substantially reduced. Trade is wider, the burden of debt less. In the eyes of many investors, the North American Free Trade Agreement still sets Mexico apart from its neighbors, even in harder times.

Most important, the current crisis is one of liquidity, not solvency. Under Mr. Salinas, Mexico used short-term investment from abroad to help pay for its imports; a stable peso to attract the investors, and big reserves of foreign exchange to steady the peso's value whenever investors moved their money back into dollars. Having nearly run out of reserves, the Government must now shrink the economy to correct its trade imbalance. But it does not face the sort of wholesale restructuring it once required.

Partly because of Mexico's progress, however, and partly because the Government missed clear opportunities last year to avoid the crisis, its impact on Mexicans seemed especially severe.

"People really believed that this was not going to happen, that the country was all right," a clerk at a Mexico City exchange house, José Coleman, 38, said as he sat around the other day, unable to find customers for his expensive dollars. "It is not. Salinas did not deal with the real problems."

In devaluation's harsh light, the stock market boom over which Mr. Salinas presided has started to look more speculative. Teléfonos de México, the privatized phone company that was a favorite of foreign investors even as it continued to provide laughably poor service, has taken a beating.

Mexican officials have begun to acknowledge more openly that while the Salinas administration pushed the economy through a difficult and needed opening to foreign trade, it did relatively little to make the industrial base more competitive abroad. Of some 150,000 manufacturing companies, about 1,000 account for roughly three-fourths of the country's exports. For all the talk abroad of a "new" Mexican economy, the real change in what Mexico produced was less dramatic.

The small investors from Iowa and Oklahoma who bought Mexico's stocks and bonds and then got skittish about its peasant uprising and assassinations were said to have, in the market lexicon, weak hands. What many of them meant to buy was the promise of a first-world country evoked by Mr. Salinas and Nafta. The kind of Mexican face they saw was that of Jaime Serra Puche, the glib, English-speaking minister who negotiated the trade accord.

Believing in Panic

Mr. Serra's face looked somewhat different in Mexico. Even with a weak opposition, he was often criticized for quashing debate over Nafta. On issues like whether Mexico would accept the environmental and labor side amendments to the pact, he reversed positions "of principle" without blinking.

The same style worked badly when Mr. Serra became President Zedillo's first Finance Minister. When he announced an effective devaluation of the currency days after vowing one would not take place, the investors from Iowa fled. After he continued to insist that a devaluation really hadn't taken place, the writer Carlos Monsiváis said: "He was so convincing that everyone immediately went out and bought dollars. What people believed in was the panic."

Mr. Salinas's plan had always been to dismantle the last authoritarian controls of Mexico's political system once the pain of economic restructuring was out of the way. Theorists of modernization held that he would lose control over unions and businessmen as the state freed up the economy, but they predicted that this would take a while. They did not forecast the rebels in the southern state of Chiapas or the unsolved murders of two governing-party leaders in a turbulent election year.

If it was obvious that such events could force the Government to spend its reserves trying to defend the peso, it was also clear that Mexico would have to achieve a higher level of political stability to entice foreign investors from liquid stocks into longer-term commitments. Mr. Zedillo began his presidential quest by stating that full democracy had become essential to Mexico's political stabilization. He then went on to run a campaign in which his party ceded as little as it could of the huge advantages that have helped keep it in power for 65 years.

Getting the Message

In facing his new crisis last Tuesday, Mr. Zedillo concluded his presentation of the emergency plan by sounding his old theme. "We must recognize the rightness of those who are dissatisfied with the limitations of our democratic life," he said. He then called for immediate talks on completing democratization, an appeal that reminded some Mexicans again of the money from Iowa.

"The investors don't care about democracy; they care about stability," said Alonso Lujambio, a political scientist. "They would be perfectly happy if you could achieve that with authoritarian government, but you can't anymore. Democracy is the only way, and I think Zedillo is starting to understand that."



Pascal Maitre Maitre

In the peso crisis, Mexicans have lost illusions as well as buying power. A Mayan Indian woman in rebellious Chiapas.



Rodolfo Valtierra/Cuartoscuro, Impact Visuals

The boom on Mexico's stock exchange, at left, was largely speculative.

The Men Behind the Chechnya Disaster

Leading Russia Into the Quagmire



Associated Press

Gen. Pavel S. Grachev
The Defense Minister could become a major scapegoat.



Associated Press

Sergei V. Stepashin
The head of counter-intelligence sold the disastrous covert war.



Reuters

Sergei A. Filatov
Boris Yeltsin's chief of staff could be a lifeline to liberals.



Associated Press

Oleg N. Lobov
Mr. Yeltsin trusts him — and got him onto the Security Council.



Associated Press/TASS

Viktor V. Ilyushin
The "first assistant" controls scheduling and much information.



Associated Press/TASS

Aleksandr V. Korzhakov
The major general is Mr. Yeltsin's bodyguard, buddy and adviser.

Continued from page 1

likely to have pushed Mr. Yeltsin into asserting the power of a weak central Government in a way that could be seen as "restoring order" in a chaotic and partly criminal region through which vital railways and especially oil-export pipelines run. These cronies are regarded with great suspicion by liberal democrats, who fear they will embrace authoritarianism rather than see Mr. Yeltsin undermined or defeated.

Maj. Gen. Aleksandr V. Korzhakov, 44, Mr. Yeltsin's loyal bodyguard, and Viktor V. Ilyushin, 47, who is Mr. Yeltsin's "first assistant" and controls his scheduling and a lot of his information flow, are the most trusted of these men.

General Korzhakov was assigned by the K.G.B. to protect Mr. Yeltsin in 1985, when he was brought to Moscow to run the city party and join the Politburo, and has stuck by him through all the ups and downs of the President's manic career. Mr. Yeltsin, who gave him his two stars, describes him as his most loyal friend and trusted adviser, and credits him with the plan to storm the Russian White House in October 1993.

Lately, however, General Korzhakov has been moving into other fields, like economic policy. Triangulate him somewhere between Woodrow Wilson's Colonel House, Richard Nixon's Bebe Rebozo, and Rasputin.

Mr. Ilyushin, who prefers vegetarian food, likes jazz and speaks some German, rose very fast in the Young Communist League of Sverdlovsk, Mr. Yeltsin's hometown. He trained as an engineer but moved quickly into party work at the factory and beyond. He was noticed in 1980 by Mr. Yeltsin, then the regional party boss, who made him an aide, and he went to Moscow with Mr. Yeltsin in 1985. In the period of Mr. Yeltsin's disgrace after being bounced from the Politburo in 1988, Mr. Ilyushin worked for the Party in Afghanistan but he was back with Mr. Yeltsin in time for the campaign leading to the presidential elections of June 1991.

Oleg N. Lobov, 57, the secretary of the Security Council and an economic conservative, is another Sverdlovsk crony who worked as an engineer in a factory until turning to party work. He was Mr. Yeltsin's second secretary, or deputy, in Sverdlovsk from 1983 to 1985, then headed the regional executive. Mr. Yeltsin brought him to Moscow in 1987; he became an Armenian Communist Party official in 1989 and was almost immediately elected as a deputy. In August 1991, Mr. Yeltsin, fearing arrest, made Mr. Lobov head of a "provisional" Russian Government that hid in a bunker near Sverdlovsk. Mr. Chernomyrdin made him Economics Minister; he pushed for slower privatization, and his removal was a condition set by the reformer, Yegor T. Gaidar, before he would return as vice premier in 1993. So Mr. Yeltsin put this trustworthy functionary at the Security Council.

Another influential aide, and the only clear liberal democrat, is Sergei A. Filatov, 58, born to a poet's family and, since January 1993, Mr. Yeltsin's chief of staff. He is not likely to have had much influence on the Chechen decision, but is available if Mr. Yeltsin wants someone to reach out to now that the adventure has gone so badly, in order to to mend relations with other democrats like Mr. Gaidar.

THE GENERALS. The Defense Minister, General of the Army Pavel S. Grachev, just 47, earned Mr. Yeltsin's respect by refusing to storm the White House in August 1991, and kept it by finally coming to his aid in October 1993, when troops shelled the building to oust defiant legislators. But he hesitated in 1993, until General Korzhakov pushed him to act, and Mr. Yeltsin is likely to offer him up as a major scapegoat of this war.

Disliked by the General Staff, in part because he rose on Mr. Yeltsin's coattails, General Grachev was already in trouble over allegations of rampant army corruption in the withdrawal of troops from Germany. He has made several rash public promises about how quickly his paratroopers could put an end to all this Chechnya independence nonsense, and the Russian press is gleefully repeating them. The mass-circulation Moskovsky Komsomolets, which hates General Grachev (one of its reporters, who was investigating military corruption, died after opening a booby-trapped briefcase), last week called him "Russia's most talentless commander" in a headline, over a faked photo of him grinning above the corpses of Russian soldiers.

When Lithuania was restive in early 1991, he opposed the use of the army in interethnic disputes, saying that was the job of the Interior Ministry and the K.G.B. But it was the failure of those two ministries in Chechnya that apparently pushed General Grachev into using the army itself, however ill-prepared.

Gen. Viktor Yerin, the Interior Minister, also went along, but typically has kept a much lower profile.

THE SPIES. It was Sergei V. Stepashin, 42, the head of counter-intelligence, who organized and sold the idea of a covert war to subvert the Chechen leadership, in part to hit organized crime. But the Chechen opposition, despite Moscow's aid, failed in November and some troops acting clandestinely were captured, deeply embarrassing Mr. Yeltsin.

It was likely then that the decision was made not to give up in Chechnya and await a parliamentary investigation of the covert war, but to press ahead with an invasion. So Mr. Stepashin, too, may pay the price.

Mr. Stepashin earned his stripes with Mr. Yeltsin by resisting the 1991 coup. He also worked to bring the Soviet K.G.B. under Russian, and hence Mr. Yeltsin's, control. But his "police origins" in the Interior Ministry rankle many in the K.G.B.

In 1989, Mr. Stepashin called on viewers of Leningrad television not to take part in pro-democracy rallies. But he was a reform Communist, helping form a "leftist center" faction at the Russian Supreme Soviet and serving as chairman of its defense and security committee. In August 1991, he quit the party.

He has spoken against the involvement of the security services in politics; today, he says his views are moderately liberal. But he opposed too big a purge within the K.G.B., saying that one can't just splash out all the mud of 70 years at once, because it isn't clear "on whose water mill it will flow."

Ideas & Trends

Recovery? Not in Your Paycheck.

By LOUIS UCHITELLE

SOMETHING is wrong with America's economic boom. After nearly four years of ever-stronger growth, people's wages should be going up *faster than their expenses. For most people* they're not, and this is the first time in decades that a recovery has gone so long without putting more money in more pockets. And now, if the recovery runs out of steam in 1995 — as so many economists predict — that *money might never show up.*

Raising wages has become the No. 1 economic issue in the nation today. Robust economic growth and rapid job creation are no longer enough to raise spirits. Both occurred in plenty of time for the November *election, and still the Democrats lost Congress.*

In his last speech to the nation, in mid-December, President Clinton made raising incomes, particularly wages, the new top priority. But neither the Democrats nor the Republicans are proposing ways to do this, except by lowering taxes.

"Think of the income tax-cut proposals," said Richard B. Freeman, an economist at Harvard, "as saying to American workers, 'Gee, we won't let you get wage increases through the job market, so we will give you some tax cuts, which are really wage increases, and we politicians, Democrats or Republicans, can claim credit for it.' "

For months, the Clinton Administration had counted on a strong recovery to create jobs and then to force up wages by more than the inflation rate. The hiring happened; the work force grew by 3.5 million people last year alone, including 256,000 in December. The *script written by economists said that as the unemploy*ment rate fell — it dipped to 5.4 percent last month — labor shortages would develop and employers would raise wages to get workers.

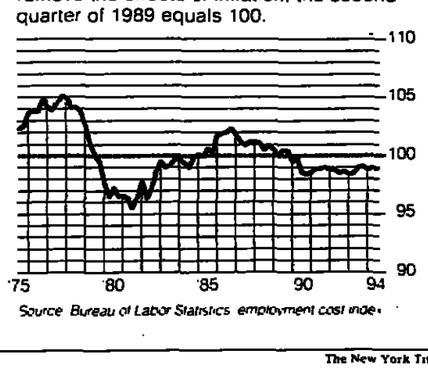
> Democrats and Republicans have the same solution to the income shortage: cut taxes.

Some labor shortages have indeed developed, but *Corporate America is not bidding up wages.*

The average weekly wage of jobholders below management level is $389 today. After adjustments for inflation, that amount turns out to have the same purchasing power as the $342 average wage in March 1990, when the recovery began, the Labor Department reports. Other measures of average or median wages offer similar evidence of stagnation.

Real Wages: Flat in the '90's

Index of private wages and salaries for each quarter. It has been adjusted to remove the effects of inflation; the second quarter of 1989 equals 100.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics employment cost index

The New York Times

Still, there are stories of hefty raises for ordinary workers.

The Gillette Company, for example, regularly upgrades the manufacturing technology at its razor factory in South Boston, where 2,000 people are employed. As more complicated machinery replaces older, simpler equipment, the company requires a higher proportion of very skilled workers.

"If someone is a Grade 11 operator making $8 an hour, then we train him in the new skills he'll need and we promote him to a Grade 10 or Grade 9 operator, making $10 an hour," said Edward DeGraan, a senior vice president of manufacturing at Gillette. "His old job is then eliminated."

That is a 15 percent raise, far above the annual inflation rate of nearly 3 percent.

The Making of Machinists

Similarly, metalworking shops in Rochester, their order books filled in a strong economy, need more machinists, or at least people who can perform some of *the functions of a machinist. So they hire away retail* clerks making $7 an hour, train them for several months and put them to work as machinists at $9 or $10 an hour, a substantial jump.

The stores, in turn, hire even lower-paid employees away from restaurants and other establishments. Then their owners, being at the bottom of the wage chain, put help-wanted signs in the window, hoping to attract the *unemployed to their minimum-wage jobs.*

But these examples represent a jump in pay levels for the workers involved, not a change in pay levels themselves. "Each company is reluctant to increase the pay assigned to a particular job," said David Wyss, *senior economist at DRI/McGraw-Hill.* "What they are doing is reaching down in the spectrum for people in lower-paying work."

And so far this job-shifting and reaching down has not involved enough workers to affect average wages *nationally.*

Between Recessions

In the pattern set after World War II, wage scales *rose frequently between recessions. Each rising econ*omy soon lifted all boats. Living standards would rise for tens of millions of people, whether they were job-hopping or staying put. In the 1980's, however, the recovery from the 1982 recession was nearly six years *old before wages recovered: And so far in the 1990's,* most boats have not risen at all.

Many explanations have been offered for the delay. The numerous layoffs and plant closings play a role. So do the weakening of labor unions, the alternative of cheaper workers abroad, inefficiency, and falling prices for computers, which hold down wages in that big industry.

Whatever the truth, the nation still possesses a huge pool of standby people eager to shift to higher wage jobs, or any jobs at all. This pool might disappear if the economy continues to grow strongly this year and probably next year as well, many economists say. But they also say the strong growth won't last; although many indicators remain strong, they suggest that the economy has passed its peak for this recovery.

That raises another issue. Suppose the market system fails to end the wage stagnation in the traditional way, by forcing employers to bid for scarce workers to keep their operations running at full capacity. Should the Clinton Administration or Congress or both take steps — other than their proposals for tax cuts and more training for more workers — to try to raise people's incomes before the 1996 election?

Neither the Republicans nor the Democrats are debating such things right now. But Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich said on Friday that the Administration was discussing an increase in the minimum wage. He also engages in some jawboning.

"American business has gotten everything it wished from this Administration: Nafta, GATT, deficit reduction and vigorous promotion of U.S. exports," Mr. Reich said. "If American industry wants to maintain the loyalty of employees and a political consensus that is pro-business, it has got to get serious about training workers and increasing their pay."

When Justice Shows Its Darker Side



Associated Press

Jesse Dewayne Jacobs died by lethal injection.

By SAM HOWE VERHOVEK

HOUSTON

SPEAKING to the jurors who would sentence Jesse Dewayne Jacobs to death, Montgomery County District Attorney Peter Speers declared: "The simple fact of the matter is that Jesse Jacobs and Jesse Jacobs alone killed Etta Ann Urdiales." Actually, another prosecutor said a few months later, at the trial of Mr. Jacobs's sister, Bobbie Jean Hogan, in the same 1986 killing, it didn't happen that way at all: the sister pulled the trigger; Mr. Jacobs didn't even know she had a gun.

No matter.

The state of Texas went ahead last week with the lethal injection of Mr. Jacobs, a former mechanic and lifelong drifter from Oklahoma. Officials argued that it did not make any legal difference who fired the fatal shot. No court ever sorted out the differing versions of events presented at the two trials. And death-penalty opponents and a Vatican theologian were left expressing horror that an *innocent man had just been killed.*

But while the prospect of such an injustice is one of the most potent arguments used by opponents, the uncertainty surrounding the Jacobs case raises a complex question for death penalty proponents. Is the risk of executing an innocent person worth the benefits they see in capital punishment?

The answer, at least that suggested in several interviews with such proponents, all of whom conceded that wrongful executions occur, is a surprisingly vigorous yes. One likened the death penalty to a childhood vaccine approved by the government with full knowledge that at least one child, somewhere, would die from an adverse reaction.

> Performing the moral cost-benefit analysis for the death penalty.

"The last refuge of the anti-death-penalty people is to make the emotional argument that the system has to be so perfect that you can never make a mistake," said Dale M. Volker, a Republican State Senator from western New York who is a leader of the effort to return the death penalty to New York, now virtually assured since Gov. George E. Pataki is pledged to sign a measure vetoed for 12 years by Mario M. Cuomo.

"I would never think it's impossible," said Mr. Volker, a former police officer. "You would hope that would never happen, but the mere fact that you might fail does not argue that you shouldn't do it."

Death-penalty opponents cite the Jacobs case, recent Supreme Court rulings sharply limiting death-row inmates' ability to present new evidence of innocence and at least two cases, one in Texas and one in Alabama, in which death-row inmates were declared wrongfully convicted and freed.

Still, the question is increasingly urgent, given the pace of executions in this country — 38 in 1993, the most since the Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976, and 31 last year.

Many proponents of the death penalty stress its "deterrent value," saying that there will be fewer murder victims even if it also means innocent people will be executed. Others point out that executions are the only way to ensure that those who have killed will never kill again.

Mr. Volker cited the case of Lemuel Smith, a New York murderer who strangled a guard while he was in prison. "If he had been executed, that corrections officer would be alive today," he said.

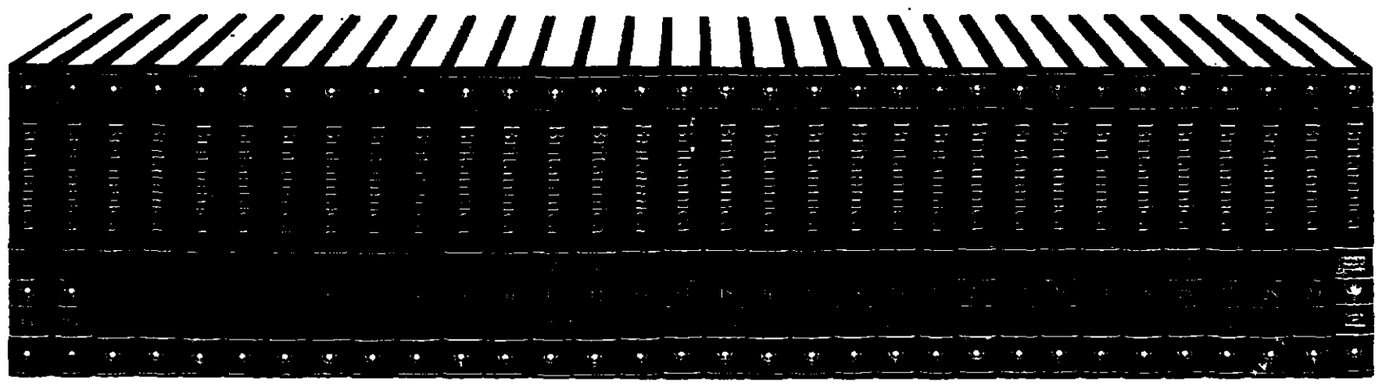
Laurin A. Wollan Jr., an associate professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida State University, who studies and supports the death penalty, says the risks are unquestionable. "Innocent people have been executed," he said. "The value of the death penalty is its rightness vis-à-vis the wrongness of the crime, and that is so valuable that the possibility of the conviction of the innocent, though rare, has to be accepted."

Referring to death-penalty opponents, Paul D. Kamenar, executive legal director of the Washington Legal Foundation, said, "I would gladly give them a couple of questionable cases that they are harping about in return for their agreeing to recognize that in the vast majority of cases, there is no question of the guilt of those being executed."

If Mr. Jacobs was a victim of injustice, he was not a notably sympathetic one. He had a voluminous rap sheet and a previous conviction for murder in Illinois, for which he had been paroled. But prosecutors at the trial of his sister, who used Mr. Jacobs as a witness and succeeded in convicting her of involuntary manslaughter, stated that the events they described at his trial did not happen. His sister drew a 10-year sentence.

The 44-year-old Mr. Jacobs was executed last Wednesday. "I have committed a lot of sins in my life," he said in the execution chamber. "Maybe I do deserve this. But I am not guilty of this crime."

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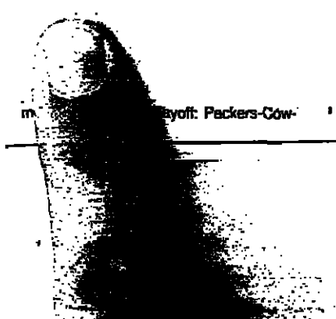
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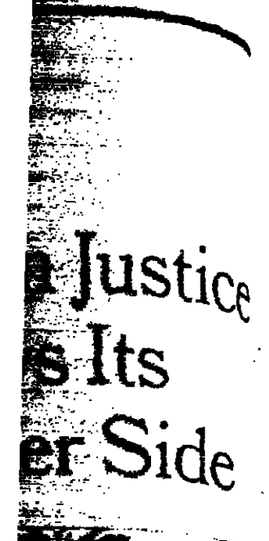


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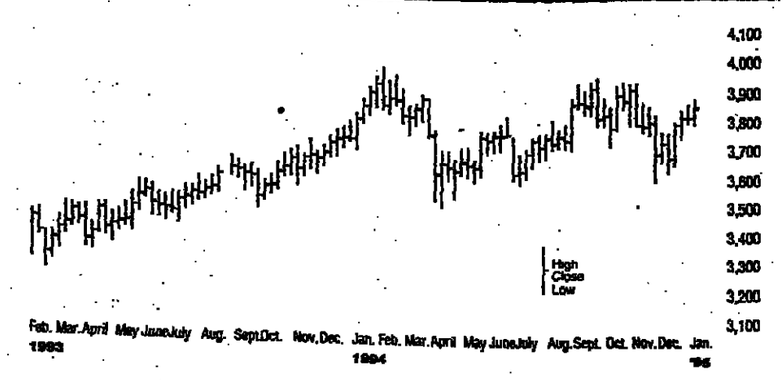


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The Economy

The Stock Markets Last Week

DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE



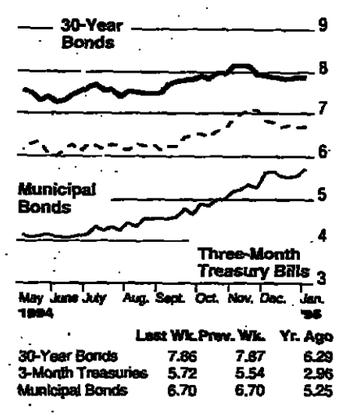
MARKET DIARY

	NYSE	NASDAQ	AMEX
Advanced	1,609	2,294	440
Declined	1,139	2,058	347
Unchanged	308	918	163
Issues Traded	3,056	5,270	950
New Highs	56	122	30
New Lows	145	139	40

MARKET INDEXES

	Close	Chg	%Chg	YTD %
D. J. Indust	3,867.41	+32.97	+ 0.86	+ 0.86
D. J. Transp	1,501.37	+46.33	+ 3.18	+ 3.18
D. J. Utils	184.35	+ 2.83	+ 1.56	+ 1.56
S.&P. 500	460.68	+ 1.41	+ 0.31	+ 0.31
S.&P. Indust	547.44	− 0.07	− 0.01	− 0.01
NYSE Comp	251.59	+ 0.65	+ 0.26	+ 0.26
Nasdaq	749.69	− 2.27	− 0.30	− 0.30
Amex	433.12	− 0.55	− 0.13	− 0.13
Russell 2000	248.08	− 2.28	− 0.91	− 0.91
Wilshire 5000	4,546.99	+ 6.37	+ 0.14	+ 0.14
Value Line	277.98	+ 0.46	+ 0.17	+ 0.17

INTEREST RATES



	Last Wk.	Prev. Wk.	Yr. Ago
30-Year Bonds	7.86	7.87	6.29
3-Month Treasuries	5.72	5.54	2.96
Municipal Bonds	6.70	6.70	5.25

New York Stock Exchange

MOST ACTIVE

	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.
TelMex	412235	36⅞	− 4⅛
RJR	219791	5¾	+ ¼
Repsol	196754	26⅞	− ⅜
WalMt	187237	22	+ ¾
GM	126618	43¼	+ 1⅛
Chrysir	117453	52⅝	+ 3⅝
EndesaSpn	102984	38⅛	− 2⅜
AT&T	101115	48¼	− 2
FordM	97060	28⅜	+ ½
PhilMr	90199	57½	...
Motorla s	89638	58	...
YPFSoc	87727	20⅝	− ¾
IBM	84740	75⅛	+ 1⅝
IGame	83924	14¾	− 1
PepsiC	81713	34¾	− 1½

PERCENTAGE GAINERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
ChekPt	22⅞	+ 3⅝	18.8
CompCre s	6½	+ 1	18.2
RoweF s	5⅞	+ ⅞	17.5
TrnsTec	13½	+ 2	17.4
SptSup s	12	+ 1¾	17.1
NatStl	17¼	+ 2½	17.0
StdCm	14	+ 2	16.7
SalleM	37⅛	+ 5⅜	16.5
StuLoan	21¼	+ 3	16.4
Dole	26⅝	+ 3⅝	15.8
WHX wt	8½	+ 1⅛	15.3
PennFn	15⅛	+ 2	15.2
USG wt	9½	+ 1¼	15.2
FMRoyT	5	+ ⅝	14.3
UnoRst	14⅜	+ 1¾	13.9

PERCENTAGE LOSERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
GrupoMex B	5⅜	− 2¼	29.5
GrupoTri	12⅜	− 4¼	25.6
GrupoMex L	6⅝	− 2¼	25.4
GrupoCasa	17	− 5½	24.4
Empica	11⅞	− 3⅝	23.4
BufeteInd	23	− 6½	22.0
Gruplusa L	14⅞	− 3¾	20.1
C G Dina L	6	− 1½	20.0
DescSaDe	19	− 4⅝	19.6
BancoFran n	17¼	− 4⅛	19.3
GrupInMas B	13⅜	− 3⅛	18.9
GrupInDur n	11½	− 2⅝	18.6
BatiMt	9	− 2	18.2
GrupoEmbot n	11⅞	− 2½	17.4
Gruplusa D	13¼	− 2¾	17.2

Nasdaq

MOST ACTIVE

	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.
MCI	136074	18⅛	− 5/16
BayNetwk s	133091	29⅝	+ ⅛
AppleC	125914	42	+ 3
Intel	125108	65	+ 1⅛
NextelCm	123435	12¼	− 2⅛
Viewlg	116165	10⅛	− 8⅜
Mcsft s	111039	60⅝	− ½
Ciscos s	100478	34⅛	− 1
AppldMt s	84969	40¾	− 1½
Novell	82693	17⅜	+ ¼

PERCENTAGE GAINERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
Futbiotcs un	5 5/16	+ 22 1/32	81.0
HudTch	9⅛	+ 3⅝	65.9
DataRce	5⅝	+ 1 5/16	52.5
SportsL	7 29/32	+ 2 3/32	44.2
Cyberonic	5	+ 1½	42.9
UnvStMd	5⅞	+ 1⅝	38.2
PandaPrj wt	6⅞	+ 1⅞	37.5
Circon	14⅜	+ 4	37.2
Sepracr	5⅝	+ 1½	36.4
BlkHwk	10⅜	+ 2¾	34.4

PERCENTAGE LOSERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
OkDesgnSys	7¼	− 6½	47.3
Viewlg	10⅛	− 8⅜	45.3
NovhPhrm	8	− 4⅝	36.4
Varifiex	15⅛	− 5⅞	28.0
WinstrCom	6⅝	− 2 3/32	26.6
GB Food	5¾	− 2	25.8
ElekTek	6½	− 2	23.5
PosResTV	14	− 4¼	23.3
EthicIH	5	− 1½	23.1
TufcoTch	5	− 1½	23.1

American Stock Exchange

MOST ACTIVE

	Vol. (00)	Last	Chg.
ViacomVar rt	157861	1	− 1/16
IntDigCm	72512	7⅞	+ ⅛
Viacom B	67881	42¼	+ 1½
RstInt	66199	11¼	+ ⅜
EchoBy	35255	9½	− 1⅛

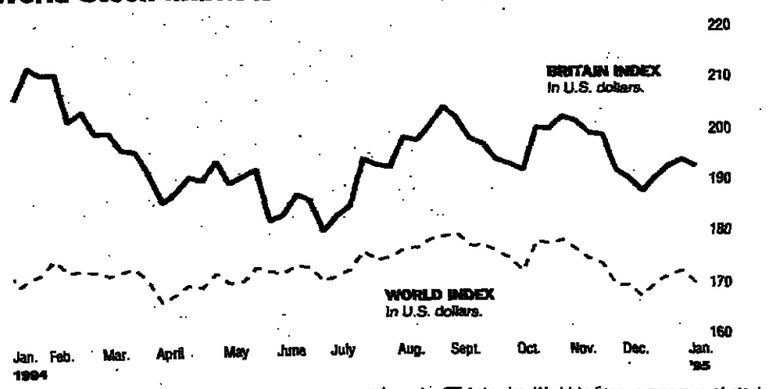
PERCENTAGE GAINERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
HoopHl	8⅛	+ 1⅝	25.0
PWJapYen wt	5	+ 1	25.0
OhArt	37	+ 7	23.3
FounPw	6⅝	+ 1¼	23.3
BearSHKP wt	5⅜	+ 1	22.9

PERCENTAGE LOSERS

	Last	Chg.	Pct.
Hondo	9½	− 2¼	19.2
GabCbl	7	− 1½	17.7
Datamt	4¼	− ¾	15.0
GrupoSi	12⅞	− 2¼	14.9
ColDta	13	− 2⅛	14.1

World Stock Markets



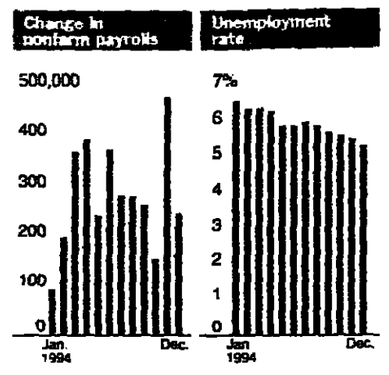
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PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS							IN LOCAL CURRENCY			
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	YTD % Chg.	Exchange Rate to $	YTD % Chg.
Australia	165.73	−3.4	22	−3.4	22	4.01	143.85	−2.3	1.305	−1.2
Austria	181.07	−0.9	13	−0.9	13	1.11	145.96	−0.8	10.9165	−0.1
Belgium	167.01	−0.8	11	−0.8	11	4.18	132.04	−0.1	32.06	−0.7
Britain	193.36	−0.8	10	−0.8	10	4.17	184.53	−0.1	0.6437	−0.7
Canada	127.73	−1.3	15	−1.3	15	2.66	129.65	−1.4	1.4018	0.1
Denmark	252.74	0.4	5	0.4	5	1.41	210.39	0.9	6.1205	−0.6
Finland	188.59	1.4	3	1.4	3	0.73	188.55	1.9	4.7638	−0.5
France	162.51	−0.6	9	−0.6	9	3.13	137.03	0.1	5.3753	−0.7
Germany	139.11	−2.9	20	−2.9	20	1.85	112.64	−2.5	1.5575	−0.5
Hong Kong	305.60	−6.3	23	−6.3	23	4.09	304.41	−6.0	7.7585	−0.3
Ireland	211.02	2.3	1	2.3	1	3.30	193.27	2.7	0.65	−0.4
Italy	75.53	0.3	6	0.3	6	1.72	91.91	0.8	1629.5	−0.4
Japan	152.37	−2.9	19	−2.9	19	0.78	97.56	−1.4	101.295	−1.5
Malaysia	467.06	−2.6	17	−2.6	17	1.83	458.96	−2.6	2.5515	0.1
Mexico	1210.92	−14.5	24	−14.5	24	1.40	7308.26	−4.2	5.52	−10.8
Netherlands	214.99	−0.9	12	−0.9	12	3.37	171.28	−0.3	1.7455	−0.6
New Zealand	69.79	−0.9	14	−0.9	14	5.03	58.17	−0.5	1.5696	−0.5
Norway	206.72	−3.0	21	−3.0	21	1.73	180.77	−2.5	6.7993	−0.5
Singapore	371.42	−0.4	8	−0.4	8	1.72	248.84	−0.7	1.4538	0.3
South Africa	330.70	−1.8	16	−1.8	16	2.24	293.82	−2.0	4.065	0.2
Spain	128.38	−2.7	18	−2.7	18	4.45	130.10	−1.1	133.775	−1.6
Sweden	234.92	1.6	2	1.6	2	1.49	261.65	2.9	7.5236	−1.2
Switzerland	164.78	−0.2	7	−0.2	7	1.83	133.54	−0.4	1.3072	0.1
United States	188.63	0.5	4	0.5	4	2.94	188.63	0.5		
COMPOSITE INDEXES										
Europe	167.48	−0.9		−0.9		3.10	150.24	−0.3		
Europe/Pacific	169.63	−2.1		−2.1		1.99	123.52	−1.1		
World	170.79	−1.3		−1.3		2.33	145.80	−0.6		

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close.
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The Economy's Dead. Long Live the Economy.

Two of last week's big stories seemed strikingly at odds. Republicans stormed Capitol Hill with the glee of schoolchildren entering a long-padlocked playground, carried to glory on the shoulders of a failed economy. But hard on the heels of that triumphant return came news that that same economy finished the year on a mighty note: the unemployment rate fell to 5.4 percent, and more than a quarter million jobs were added in December. On top of that, there was a huge upward revision that made November's rise in payrolls the biggest in seven years. All this brought 1994's payroll expansion to 3.5 million, over a million more than in 1993 and the strongest in a decade. Now it might be logical to expect that such news, a clear inflation threat, would spook the markets. But in the bond market, rates actually fell a bit, and stock prices rose strongly.



Source: Datastream

Why Are These Men Smiling?



Associated Press

It's here. The Age of Gingrich. Sparks are flying. But the way Bill Clinton and Newt Gingrich smiled when they met, you'd think they were good ol' boys hunting the same duck. Which is what, defying every law of nature, they said they'd try to do. The first deal: the President won't lobby hard against a balanced-budget amendment, Republicans won't bust the budget with too-steep cuts in capital gains taxes. It's the Republicans' day, though: when Senate Democrats tried to scrap one bit of business-as-usual and bar members of Congress from taking lobbyists' gifts, the idea was summarily killed off.

What the Dividends Foretell

Each week, a different crystal ball peers into the economy's soul. Yes, we'll soon be hearing about the Super Bowl indicator. The latest tea leaf? Corporate dividends. An S.&P. study out last week showed that while few companies are cutting dividends, they're not quite as quick to raise them. True, payout increases were up in '94 from '93, but the rise wasn't as steep as a powerful economy might suggest. Since directors hate to cut dividends, and thus avoid raising them unless they're sure they can be sustained, this could be a sign of wavering confidence.

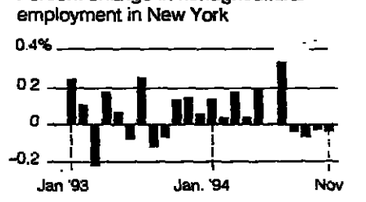
Orange County Digs Out

Raise taxes? In Orange County? Don't be ridiculous. It's "not going to happen," said an adviser to the county. "I will not support any new taxes," said a county supervisor. Californians feel strongly about such things. Never mind that in the wake of the derivatives debacle, the county — the very symbol of suburban affluence — can't pay its bills. It did come up with $40 million in budget cuts recently to try to dig itself out, but it said last week that its shortfall was an awful lot more — $172 million for the next six months. So without taxes, or a miracle, a lot of services are probably going to disappear.

What About New York?

Somehow the New York area fell off the bus a few months ago as the nation's economy sped gleefully onward. The region is one of the weakest in the nation, with job growth vanishing since July. (It did better in December, perhaps because of holiday sales jobs.) So those Federal Reserve rate increases — meant to cool things off nationwide — could plunge the city into an icy bath. And it could get worse: Charles Schumer of Brooklyn — that new rarity, a House Democrat — just released a study showing that the "Contract With America" would cost the city $1.9 billion in Federal aid next year.

Percent change in nonagricultural employment in New York



The New York Times

Paying Hitler's Bills

The time, the 1920's. The world had been made safe for capitalism. America was roaring, Germany was shattered, and Americans bought $210 million in German bonds. Not a wise move. When Hitler came along, he treated these bonds with his typical respect, and Germany quickly defaulted — with Roosevelt reportedly saying, with a laugh, "Serves the Wall Street bankers right." Those bonds weren't forgotten, though — part of the tab was paid years ago — and now Germany's squaring its debts. It's offering new, presumably more solid bonds to investors, or, more likely, their descendants. Are you among them? Call Deutsche Bank. Now, where were those bonds?

Just One Minus Sign . . .

Now we know what was behind that vanishing payment at Fidelity Magellan. It was the tiniest thing, Fidelity just told shareholders in a letter — just a missing minus sign. An accountant, transcribing financial records onto a spreadsheet, accidentally turned a $1.3 billion loss into a $1.3 billion gain. But that $2.6 billion error was no small thing for investors who'd been told in November that they'd get $4.32 a share, then probably spending it before they got it, and ended up with nothing. A fitting end for a bleak year in mutual-fund land.

Thinking? Don't Get Caught

If you're toiling away past quitting time, visions of extra pay dancing the pain away, you'd better watch out: If you catch yourself feeling creative, put a lid on it, quick. Only the drones, it seems, need apply for overtime. A former Washington Post reporter, Thomas Sherwood, had insisted that under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, he should have gotten time and a half for all the extra hours he put in over the years. But a Federal judge has just ruled that the act does not apply. The act exempts professional and "artistic" workers, it seems, and the judge said many journalists fall into the latter category — those whose work requires "invention, imagination and talent."



The New York Times

Go Digital, Young Man

"The Graduate," ca. 1995. Wise older person (not necessarily male) offers Dustin Hoffman type a single word of advice: "Digital." Forget traditional televisions, VCR's and the like. "Digital" is the word from last week's Consumer Electronics Show (a digital broadcast standard is coming), and the race is on. In 1994, sales of home computers, at $8.1 billion, came perilously close to the $8.4 billion spent on TV sets. Soon, in fact — to hear the electronics gurus tell it — we won't even be able to tell the difference. After all, a screen, as Humphrey Bogart didn't say, is just a screen.

Mexico Tries Soothing Words

Mexico, with firmly crossed fingers, is trying to push past this economic crisis. On Tuesday President Ernesto Zedillo announced a detailed recovery plan, and on Thursday the freshly minted Finance Minister, Guillermo Ortiz, came to the money capital, New York, bearing calming words. This is "completely different" from 1982, he said, referring to Mexico's bond default. "We have a fundamentally solid economy." The peso, he assured, should steady itself at about 4.50 to the dollar — it's now well above 5 — and do so without Mexico's central bank propping it up. At first, the markets seemed to think he had a point, but on Friday the peso plunged again, to a new low.

On the Road Again

They're at it again. The United States and Japan keep trying to hammer out a solution to the lopsided trade in autos and auto parts, and last week they said the stalled talks would resume this month. The American deficit in the auto sector rose to $36.1 billion last year, more than half the trade gap with Japan. True, we're selling more there, but the flow this way more than wipes that out. It's a bit vague what any new talks will focus on, though, for Washington will now deal directly with Japanese companies on buying parts — that was a big issue. The main thing seemed to be setting a tone of harmony when Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama calls on President Clinton this week.

World Markets/Richard W. Stevenson

Schweppes and the Battle for King Cola

LONDON

WHEN Cadbury Schweppes P.L.C. released its last earnings report in September, the soft drink and candy company was bubbling over with optimism. Pretax profit was up by 23.2 percent for the first half of the year, the merger of A & W Brands into its beverage business in the United States had gone smoothly and unusually warm summer weather in Europe seemed to promise a strong sales increase for the second half of the year.

But in the last few months, the fizz has gone out of Cadbury Schweppes, at least as far as investors are concerned. The stock, which rallied over the summer after having plunged along with the rest of the market earlier in the year, has fallen sharply again since September.

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In London, Cadbury Schweppes closed on Friday at 433 pence a share, 20.6 percent below its 52-week high, reached in January, of 545 pence, and 11.6 percent down from its summer peak of around 490 pence.

In New York, its American depository receipts, which represent four shares, closed at $27.25, down nearly 16 percent from their high for 1994.

The culprit, more than anything else, has been a resurgence in the cola wars in Britain. Cadbury Schweppes is 51 percent owner of Coca-Cola and Schweppes Beverages, the bottler for Coke in Britain. The British beverage business accounts for 24 percent of Cadbury Schweppes's operating profit.

Coke and Pepsi fight it out here as they do elsewhere, but this year the competition has been complicated — and intensified — by the appearance of two potentially powerful new products: private label colas sold by some of Britain's largest supermarket chains, and Virgin Cola, which was introduced by Richard Branson, the entrepreneur who owns Virgin Atlantic Airways. (The largest of the private label colas, J. Sainsbury's Classic Cola, and Virgin Cola are both manufactured under contract by the Cott Corporation of Canada.)

Coke's sales continue to grow in Britain, but it has been losing market share. Taylor Nelson AGB, a market research firm, reported in December that Coke's market share in supermarket purchases in Britain fell below 50 percent for the first time in November. The firm said Coke had a 42 percent share in the last week of November, down from 54 percent in October.

The cola war has investors worried that profit growth in Cadbury's beverage business will slow or reverse, especially since the competition has sent retail prices down by 15 percent this year.

Large supermarket chains, where the fight is currently most intense, account for a relatively small portion of the company's total sales and earnings, said Edouard de Boisgelin, an analyst at Merrill Lynch in London. Still, he said, the competition is not going to help earnings or investor sentiment toward the stock.

"Margins are likely to be negatively affected," Mr. de Boisgelin said. "It will put pressure on part of their business."

Mr. de Boisgelin said Cadbury Schweppes is a "good, solid, well-managed company." But he said the cola wars and other questions hanging over the company make him neutral on the stock, which he said was likely to do no better than to track the overall market.

Among the other questions swirling around Cadbury Schweppes are the extent to which it will be able to match last summer's strong soft drink sales, helped as they were by unusually warm weather in Europe, and perhaps most important, the company's long-term intentions toward the Dr Pepper/Seven-Up Companies, the American soft drink maker in which Cadbury already has a 25.9 percent stake.

Cadbury has been debating for some time whether to try to acquire the rest of Dr Pepper/Seven-Up in a bid to solidify its position as the No. 3 soft-drink company in the United States and the world. In a Securities and Exchange Commission filing in the United States in October, the company said it had had "exploratory" discussions about taking over Dr Pepper/Seven-Up, but had no firm plans.

•

Dr Pepper/Seven-Up has so far resisted Cadbury's calls for a seat on its board, and it is unclear whether Cadbury could make an offer that would not provoke a hostile response.

Any bid for Dr Pepper would probably require Cadbury to issue more shares through a rights offering to raise cash, a prospect that would force current holders to put up more money or see their holdings diluted.

"If they did take Dr Pepper on board at a very large cost, something that would require some form of equity issue, one has to question whether the market would be prepared to accept an issue of the magnitude required," said one London-based analyst who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

"The issue is whether as a result of the reduction in free cash flow that will be the inevitable result of the cola war in the U.K., the group's intention as far as expansion into other markets will be stymied," the analyst said. ■

Currency

	Last Week	Prior Week	Year Ago
Japanese Yen per Dollar	101.40	99.73	111.80
German Mark per Dollar	1.5645	1.5495	1.7283
Canadian Dollar per U.S. Dollar	1.4003	1.4014	1.3183
British Pound U.S. Dollar per British Pound	1.5495	1.5665	1.4930
Gold Republic National Bank	$371.80	$382.80-	$386.25

Currency: Friday NY Close

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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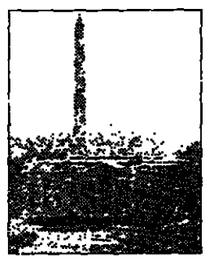
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Anybody Home?

The Democrats are in the throes of an advice crisis. For once, there is a shortage of people eager to tell the President *exactly* what he needs to do. Meanwhile, the dangerous White House public-relations team continues to display its gift for feckless hairsplitting (the Hilton Head flyover) and humiliating imagery (the President posing with two terminally lame ducks).



Well, things do look bad for the Razorback Renaissance. Pretty soon, a bulb will have to blink on over Bill Clinton's head or they can turn the lights out at the re-elect office. But with time and discipline, Mr. Clinton could again become a factor in shaping the national policy agenda that was his alone to write only two years ago.

He has a couple of things working for him. One, the old Democratic crustaceans are gone. Better a Dick Gephardt trying to bushwhack you than a Tom Foley saying "Don't worry, Boss." Second, House Speaker Newt Gingrich remains slightly out of control. His tarmac sermonette on the need for journalistic cheerleading is only the latest example of a Gantryesque conviction that he has been sworn in as maximum-leader-in-charge-of-all-known-thought. The betting here is still that the voluble Georgian will not self-destruct, but he is creating an opening for Mr. Clinton to look large, calm and — yes, say it out loud all you senior White House aides — even Presidential.

Presidents, of course, have programs, convictions and an overarching vision. Any Clinton comeback must start with a strategy for confronting this President's unique double-barreled credibility problem. The American people do not believe what Mr. Clinton says. In addition, they do not believe he knows what he believes. Homely vows about fighting until the last dog, or duck, dies will not fix this malady. What is needed is an attainable set of proposals, quickly embodied in streamlined legislation, that flow from the values upon which Mr. Clinton campaigned. Here's a starter kit:

1. Propose simplified health-care reform that sets universal coverage as a national goal, ends cherry-picking by insurers but — bowing to political realities — immediately subsidizes coverage only for low-income children and pregnant women.

2. Offer tough, but humane, welfare reform that recognizes the fact that a majority of Americans oppose Mr. Gingrich's punitive two-years-and-out rule.

3. Really push, this time, for a campaign reform bill that curbs PAC's and outlaws the lobbyist gifts that have just been endorsed by the new Republican majority.

4. Outsmart the Republicans on the politics of a bad idea by targeting the tax cut on truly middle-income families — those earning less than, say, $75,000 a year. That rewards the workers who elected Mr. Clinton, rather than the affluent beneficiaries of the Gingrich plan.

5. Oppose the balanced-budget amendment as a sham and, as an alternative, support abolition of the industrial and agricultural subsidies now costing taxpayers $225 billion to $250 billion a year. The Democratic Leadership Council believes that Mr. Clinton should challenge the Republicans to whack these subsidies by $50 billion in the new budget.

Such steps would enable Mr. Clinton to make the embracing speeches he now lacks the political authority to deliver. He is, after all, still a better orator than Newt Gingrich, and once, not long ago, he had a better message. But right now the public sees the Democrats as a husk, a party ready for a long redefinitional agony like the one that consumed the British Labor Party for over a decade.

The Bill Clinton of 1992 could explain why America needed a Democratic Party. He described it as a party that invests in people, not corporations. He described a modernized party that responds to economic change by re-educating workers and battling special interests instead of warring on the poor.

In 1995, a weaker Bill Clinton faces a harder task. He must define a valid role for government to a people angry at government and tired of him. In other words, he is up against what George Bush inelegantly called the vision thing. Lack of a cohesive vision defeated Mr. Bush in 1992, and it can do the same for Mr. Clinton in 1996 unless he gets moving. An opportunity to do so still exists, but the moment is fleeting.

Higher Standards For Athletes

When the N.C.A.A. convention meets in San Diego tomorrow, the college presidents and athletic directors need to take special note of Stephon Marbury, the high school basketball wizard who caused a national stir last week when he announced that he would play for Georgia Tech.

Like tens of thousands of young men all over the country, Stephon, now 17, has been seduced by the dream of a professional basketball contract, and said as much in his announcement on Thursday. But so were three brothers who came before him. His oldest brother, Eric, played at the University of Georgia and failed to graduate. His next two brothers, Donnie and Norman, followed a similar path and neither achieved the professional dream.

That Stephon is regarded as more talented than his brothers is beside the point. Fewer than one in a thousand kids who pin their hopes to the dream of a professional contract succeed. Of those who do, nearly all have been retired from the game within four years, ill prepared for life beyond the court. Meanwhile the athletes have helped their colleges to earn millions in television revenues, without even getting degrees in return.

In 1986, the N.C.A.A. sought to insure better academic success with Proposition 48, a measure that raised eligibility standards for freshmen athletes. To play sports as a freshman, an athlete needs a 2.0 average in a high school core curriculum and a combined score of at least 700 on the Scholastic Assessment Test, about 200 points below the national average for college-bound seniors. Taken together, the first two Proposition 48 classes had 1,150 fewer black collegiate athletes. But because those who made the grade were better qualified, the number who graduated actually went up, by about 150, an increase of 6 percent.

Next year the N.C.A.A. is scheduled to introduce Proposition 16, which raises the standard again. Students will need a 2.5 average instead of 2.0. They will also be required to take more math and English courses. But some in the N.C.A.A. would like to derail the measure. Tomorrow, the N.C.A.A. is scheduled to vote on a proposal that would delay Proposition 16 by a year — and also lower the S.A.T. score that the new measure would require.

This attempt to delay and weaken Proposition 16 deserves resounding defeat. The higher standard is critical to educating athletes.

A Nuclear Deal, With Iran

Iran may add an atomic bomb to its arsenal within the next decade, perhaps within five years, American and Israeli officials warn. Before it is too late to head off that dangerous development, Washington needs to reconsider how to deal with Teheran on this issue.

The U.S. has sought to contain Iran, along with next-door rival Iraq. This policy of dual containment has in practice meant dual isolation, trying to minimize all contact and commerce, not only by Americans but also by other countries. That policy is apparently failing to keep Iran from getting what it needs to build a bomb.

However distasteful the regime in Teheran may be, if the principal U.S. goal is a non-nuclear Iran, Washington would be better off trying to strike a bargain like the one it made with North Korea. Israel, which has maintained quiet contacts with Teheran, may know of a suitable go-between.

Shunning Iran may appeal to those who have bitter memories of Teheran's humiliating mistreatment of American diplomats, but it aggravates Iranian paranoia, and adds motivation to build the bomb. It also impedes efforts to halt Iranian bomb-making by limiting diplomacy, and by trying to stop all other countries' commerce with Iran instead of focusing on trade in bomb-building technology.

Germany, India and France resent American accusations of appeasement for continuing their commerce with Iran but have gone along with American efforts to halt trade in bomb and missile technology. Pakistan, China and North Korea oppose the economic embargo in principle and have been only too pleased to fill the void. Technology has also seeped out of leaky Russia, Ukraine and other former Soviet republics. Getting these countries to curb all nuclear-usable trade will be easier if it is not seen as part of a total embargo. Meanwhile, Washington is right to sustain a total ban on U.S. trade with Iran.

The outlines of a potential nuclear deal start with Iran's dismay over efforts to deny it nuclear reactors, which it is entitled to receive under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. It has won some third-world support in advance of a review conference this spring on extending the treaty.

Iran may be amenable to the approach the U.S. took to North Korea. That means permitting delivery of the nuclear reactors Iran has bought from Germany, China, Russia and other countries. In return, Iran would have to go well beyond the requirements of the nonproliferation treaty by forgoing the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel that turns it into bomb-making plutonium and accepting more intrusive monitoring of all its nuclear sites.

Nuclear diplomacy with Iran will be difficult. Unlike North Korea, which had been trying to open ties to the U.S., Iran's Government is still under the sway of fundamentalist militants who are prepared to use every means, including terrorism, to spread their version of an Islamic revolution. Isolating Iran, however, may be strengthening the militants.

The time has not yet come for the U.S. to re-establish full commerce and contact with Iran. But isolation is not stopping Iran from building a bomb. A diplomatic nuclear deal is worth a try.

We Still Need C.I.A., but It Needs to Change

To the Editor:

"For C.I.A., History Is the Big Traitor" (The Week in Review, Jan. 1) nails the soft spots in national intelligence: the secondary role of intelligence in international crime; the competition of open-source information; the marginal potentials of intelligence to contribute to ecology, environment and even economic threats, and the lack of a vision of future strategic intelligence needs.

You also tell us that a relevant direction for the Central Intelligence Agency is an imperative for national security.

Robert M. Gates, when leaving the National Security Council to become Director of Central Intelligence, got President Bush to sign a directive to all executive departments to conduct a review of intelligence needs for the post-cold-war era. Largely based on these results came the cry, first from Mr. Gates and then from President's Clinton's C.I.A. Director, R. James Woolsey Jr., that the post-cold-war world was a more dangerous place and that intelligence had to do more with less.

They missed the point that the "more" is the marginal and inappropriate work that you rightly dismiss as a basis for continuing the C.I.A.

Post-cold-war geopolitical developments that will eventually force a more aggressive United States foreign policy have not matured to the point of sparking a response strategy. The national, ethnic and boundary-conflict crises that fill the news do not constitute a more dangerous world to United States citizens.

But this early period of the post-cold war is transitional. It is a recess from the offensive foreign policy that we had to endure for four decades. Strategic intelligence needs by policy makers and defense planners are consequently ill defined.

But this doesn't mean no intelligence work. Intelligence must still monitor and interpret the major, glacierlike, regional geopolitical power shifts in all continents, and it will be of immense importance to our future well-being.

Future strategic threats include the Asian economic explosion; the declining rationale for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Japan's growing political power; the increased economic strength of a confederated Europe, and Russia's future position in Eurasia.

While the consequences of these geopolitical evolutions look ominous, the results are not predestined. Good foreign and defense policies will be able to minimize the negatives and even create new security opportunities. This will take good intelligence.

The country still needs a healthy Central Intelligence Agency, and there will be no doubt about it by the end of the century, provided that your article is taken as a wakeup call.

GORDON NEGUS
Falls Church, Va., Jan. 3, 1995

The writer was executive director, Defense Intelligence Agency, 1986-90.

Some Kind of Analysis

To the Editor:

Your Dec. 29 front-page news analysis on the Central Intelligence Agency's failings omits one that had tremendous repercussions on the United States and on the world.

You state that "throughout the cold war, the mission of the C.I.A. was clear," adding, "the Soviet Union was the 'target.'" You describe a concentrated effort to measure the Soviet military buildup. We have since learned that the size of this so-called buildup was grossly overestimated by the agency, resulting in an ever-escalating arms race, especially in nuclear weapons, at a cost of billions of dollars.

As has since been disclosed, it was the United States that led the development of newer and deadlier nuclear weapons, forcing the Soviet Union to respond to these threats from without and leading to proliferation in many other countries.

The result is still being felt in countless ways.

We have yet to come up with any practical means of disposing of dangerous nuclear wastes. Storage is deteriorating, adding to the danger.

There is great danger of nuclear materials that remain in the former Soviet Union will get into the hands of renegade countries or terrorists.

The economic cost has been felt in the tremendous national debt that has had a profound effect on our economy and quality of life. To deal with the budget deficit, programs to help the unemployed, rescue the homeless, improve the cities, provide a decent transportation system, clean up our environment and keep it clean are being slashed from inadequate financing.

With the C.I.A.'s kind of analysis, it makes one wonder why we need that agency at all. We taxpayers deserve better.

PAULINE SILVERMAN
Beachwood, Ohio, Jan. 2, 1995

A Contract for Our Royalist Congress

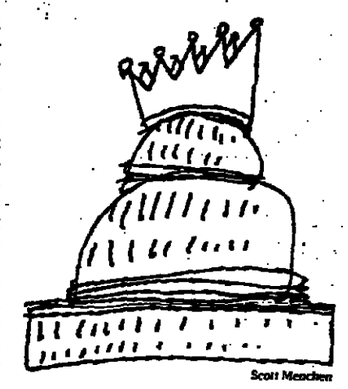
To the Editor:

Republicans in Congress have put forward a "Contract With America." I propose a three-item "contract" that all members of Congress, both houses, should adopt.

(1) Every March the Internal Revenue Service prepares the tax returns of representatives and senators. We taxpayers pay for this privilege, which should be abolished. Congress needs to be subjected to what we taxpayers are put through. Then it might simplify the process.

(2) Congress does not participate in Social Security like the rest of us. It has a Federal pension plan, 100 percent inflation-adjusted annually. It should be abolished, with all members placed on Social Security. Only when they and we share a common plan will they become reasonable about changes to the plan.

(3) Congress has its own health insurance plan. Members pay $25 each month for family health insurance. They also have access to government hospitals, for free surgery and other care. We taxpayers pay for this privilege for them too. In this case again, their interests are not those of the rest of the body politic.



Scott Meschewski

The American people have created a royalist class: Congress! Members have exempted themselves from laws that affect our lives, and we have accepted this terrible mistreatment. We deserve something better, and it's time we demanded it.

HAROLD F. ROSENBAUM
Stamford, Conn., Jan. 4, 1995

How About Honoring American Dancers?

To the Editor:

Thanks to Frank Rich for his Jan. 1 column on the Kennedy Center Honors television broadcast. I agree that the program was wrongheaded, embarrassing and, well, lame.

The Harold Prince selections, which Mr. Rich notes were mere snippets of Mr. Prince's current Broadway hits, should keep thousands of potential theatergoers away from any box office. The composer Morton Gould, who was saluted by a military band playing melodies he didn't write, appeared on the lookout for someone to punch. And was a children's chorus, while nice, the right tribute for Kirk Douglas?

Even the briefest of mentions, this year especially, of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis was woefully missed.

The final indignation, which Mr. Rich calls padding, was the appearance of the London cast of "Stomp."

I mean nothing against these talented performers, but isn't it insensitive for a Washington cultural ceremony to feature British artists when hundreds of American theater and dance companies are folding up because of Washington's indifference to arts financing? Our dancers could use a paycheck.

GARY HILL
New York, Jan. 3, 1995

Government Isn't in the Mercy Business

To the Editor:

At first I thought "The Quality of Mercy in 1995," your Jan. 1 lead editorial, was a parody. It was so full of left-wing, redistributionist clichés and code words that it seemed like a reprint of something out of the 1960's. But no, I thought, this is The New York Times. They take themselves much too seriously for that. They really mean it!

By now, even the editorial staff of The New York Times should have figured out that the forceful taking of property from some citizens, in order to transfer that property to other citizens for whom you may feel sorry, is not a moral act. There can be no morality without free will. Acts of the state are acts of coercion and, by definition, are a negation of free will.

Therefore, such terms as "compassion," "caring," "kindness" and "mercy" are not just out of place in an editorial addressing Government policy, but the use of such terms also reflects a willful attempt to mischaracterize, mislead and deceive.

Acts of compassion, caring, kindness and mercy are acts of free people using their own time, talents and property. Acts of the state, by their nature coercive, cannot honestly be so described.

It seems to this observer that it is just this kind of rhetorical and political dishonesty that has caused so many in our society to distrust The New York Times and other "elite" media and politicians. If you presume to tell the rest of us right from wrong, you would be well advised to begin thinking and writing more honestly about these serious subjects.

CHARLES M. FREELAND
Indianapolis, Jan. 4, 1995

Dinosaurs and Destiny

To the Editor:

In a Jan. 3 Science Times article you report on a theory that dinosaurs died out after an asteroid hit sulfur-rich rock in what is now the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico, producing a haze of sulfuric acid that blocked sunlight for decades. Had the rock not been rich in sulfur, you say, "the dinosaurs might well have survived the impact, thereby changing the course of evolution."

Actually, it was the demise of the dinosaurs that changed the course of evolution. Had the dinosaurs not been wiped out, evolution would have continued on the same path it had been following for at least 150 million years.

MEIRA BEN-GAD
Chicago, Jan. 3, 1995

When the Bible Becomes the Excuse for Killings at Clinics

To the Editor:

Your Jan. 2 front-page article on John C. Salvi 3d, the suspect in killings at a Massachusetts clinic and violence outside a Norfolk, Va., clinic, carries a picture on page 10 depicting a family praying for Mr. Salvi outside the Norfolk jail where he is being held. A sign they carry, with a biblical reference, states "God bless John Salvi Num 25:13."

Numbers 25:13 says: "It shall be for him and his descendants after him a pact of priesthood for all time, because he took impassioned action for his God, thus making expiation for the Israelites."

The him is Phinehas, grandson of Aaron the high priest. In Numbers 25:6-8, an Israelite brings a Midianite (non-Israelite) woman to the Tent of Meeting and in front of Moses and the whole Israelite community performs a brazen act. Phinehas, seeing this, takes a spear and stabs both through their genitals.

There was no arrest or trial, just Phinehas taking the law into his own hands, and for this God rewards him with a pact of priesthood. Mr. Salvi believes abortion is wrong and that he too can take the law into his own hands. He believes God sanctioned this act and will reward him for it.

This kind of fundamentalist thinking and the consequent militant impassioned action for one's God are one of the most frightening and dangerous aspects of our society today.

EDWARD J. KLEIN
Jamaica Estates, Queens, Jan. 2, 1995

Words Matter

To the Editor:

The abuse of language by some religious and political leaders is important in understanding the physical violence and murders that have occurred in abortion clinics.

The killers in Florida and Massachusetts are following out the logic that equates a fetus with a baby, the abortion of a fetus with a murder and the abortion of many fetuses as a holocaust.

A fetus is not a baby but a fetus. Just as it cannot be reduced to an egg and a sperm, so too it cannot be inflated to a person.

To abort a fetus is not to kill a baby, it is to abort a fetus. Our language is perfectly adequate to describe these events and does not warrant the distortions of many in the anti-abortion leadership.

Religious and political leaders who insist on seeing the fetus as a baby, but who are rightly reluctant to accept the murders of doctors and clinic receptionists as acts of force to protect the innocent, will continue to have a difficult time drawing the needed conceptual distinctions.

They will have an even more difficult time convincing their more zealous followers that violence is not the proper conclusion to the premises of their own arguments.

To speak and write carefully, to call a fetus a fetus and not a baby, to view abortion as abortion and not murder, does not mean that one must be indifferent to the fate of a fetus.

WALTER FEINBERG
Champaign, Ill., Jan. 3, 1995

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include writer's name, address and telephone number. We regret that we cannot acknowledge unpublished letters. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036.

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מכאן מן הארכיון

صكذا من الاصل

Our Two Armies In Haiti

By Bob Shacochis

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.

Imagine that on the eve of the Rose Bowl, Coach Joe Paterno is told that the big game has been canceled, sort of. Nevertheless, he is instructed to field his players, who will now be augmented by Penn State's basketball team, the chess club, the criminology department and the university's fund-raising division. Furthermore, his goal will no longer be to defeat his opponent but, with as little physical contact as possible, to establish a rapport with the Oregon Ducks and ultimately persuade them either to give up or to join his own team.

The analogy is helpful in trying to understand the U.S. military's task in Haiti after Jimmy Carter's diplomatic brinkmanship in September threw a year's worth of Pentagon plans into disarray. From the beginning, the U.S. occupation forces have struggled to focus simultaneously on two Haitis, with two distinct sets of tactical and indeed philosophical challenges. And if one lesson has emerged from the occupation, it is this: in the post-cold-war world of small, messy conflicts, the U.S. Army might as well leave the infantry at home. It has some unconventional competition.

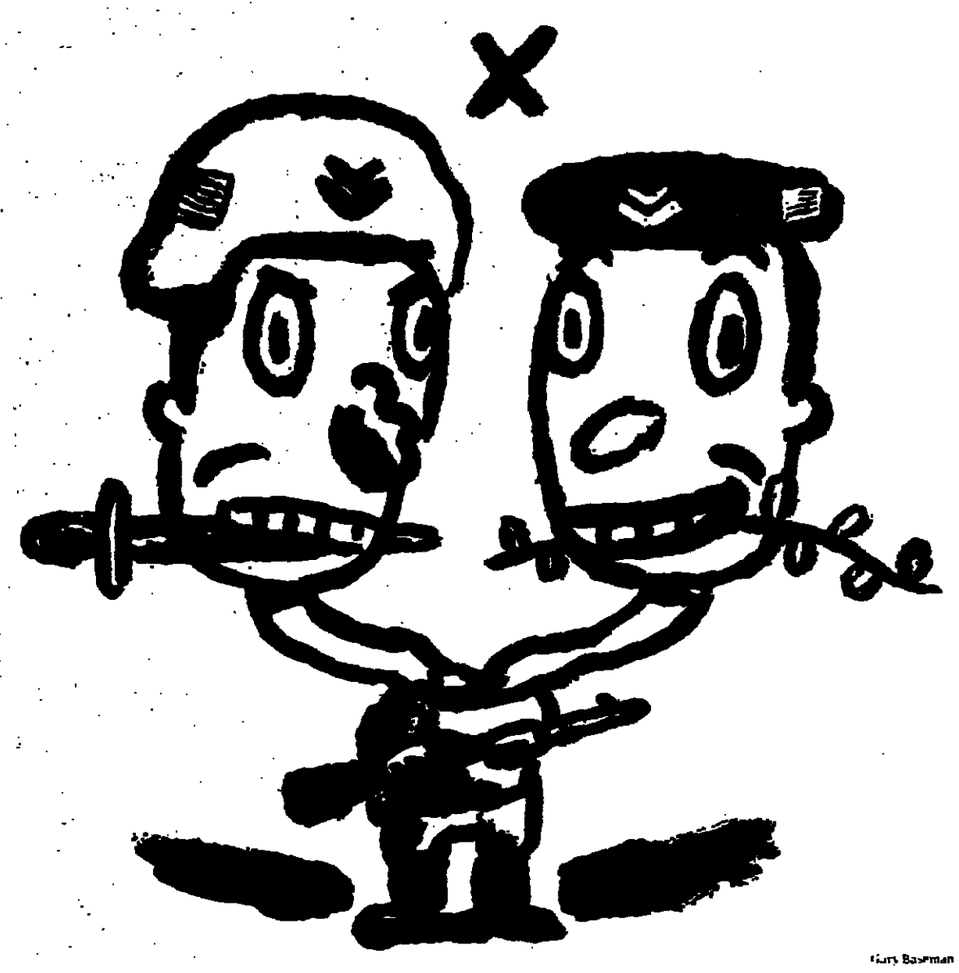
The Haiti of Maj. Gen. David Meade, the leader of the U.S. occupation forces, was and is a textbook-case theater of operations: conventional, ubiquitously hostile and limited to the country's two major cities, Port-au-Prince and Cap-Haïtien. General Meade is commander of both the entire occupation force and his own 10th Mountain Division of 15,000 infantrymen, recent graduates of the University of Futility — Somalia campus.

Conversely, the second Haiti remains a maverick's dream come true: unconventional, receptive, rural and wide open to interpretation. This is the Haiti of Col. Mark Boyatt, commanding officer of the 1,050 troops of the Special Forces, better known as the Green Berets. The Special Forces are dispersed throughout the Haitian countryside in small detachments. The eight-man Special Forces team in the northern city of Limbé, for instance, keeps the peace among almost 400,000 residents in a 600-square-mile district.

Handpicked from the regular Army for their maturity and intelligence, members of the Special Forces work hard to establish a rapport with the locals; it's their job. The infantrymen of the 10th Mountain Division, meanwhile, are largely confined to heavily fortified compounds in Cap Haïtien and the capital.

Yet while the Special Forces control 95 percent of the country, General Meade claims 100 percent of the command. The imbalance in authority would make more sense if the limited mission of Operation Uphold Democracy — returning the elected President, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, to a "stable and secure environment" — hadn't been accomplished, in conventional terms, months ago, when the Haitian Army was neutralized.

Bob Shacochis is at work on a book about Haiti.



Gary Baseman

In unconventional terms, Haiti is neither stable nor secure today, and probably won't be for months or years to come. This more ambiguous and lasting threat is better addressed by the Special Forces, not the infantry, which has had little to do in Haiti since October except guard itself. Even a shootout over a pay dispute at Haitian Army headquarters in Port-au-Prince on Dec. 26 — the biggest flare-up of violence since the Marines landed in September — was readily handled by a single platoon (about 40 infantrymen) assigned to the National Palace.

In Haiti's minimalist campaign, less is not more but it's enough. The muscle-bound 10th Mountain Division has rarely seemed capable of pushing more than two buttons — establishing

War makers vs. peace builders.

secure perimeters around ports and airfields or sending limited patrols out as a show of force. Both missions are conducted with an internecine disregard for the other Haiti, which has essentially been the province of the Army's unconventional forces.

Logistically, the 10th Mountain claims control over available resources, often leaving the Special Forces to fend for themselves, and coordination between the different missions is shoddy at best. Fearing an outbreak of violence in his district in October a Special Forces captain requested support three times from the 10th Mountain infantrymen in nearby Cap-Haïtien. Command never denied the request; it simply ignored it.

For the thousands of infantrymen who came dressed to kill, it's time to go home. As a Special Forces sergeant in Haiti told me last month, "Every dollar spent on the infantry could have been spent more constructively on engineering units, medical units and M.P. units, who can take care of themselves as well as supply the skills to make this country better."

Although the most meaningful changes in Haiti will take place on the local level, as the nation's Napoleonic power structure is decentralized, General Meade has been reluctant to permit any innovative security measures to be tried out in the countryside before they have been proven first in Cap-Haïtien and Port-au-Prince.

But the Special Forces don't have a perfect record, either. Colonel Boyatt rejected the civilian police squads that some of his teams labored to build in cooperation with local town councils; instead he helped fashion a new "interim police security force" out of the old Haitian Army. These new policemen are widely regarded as disgruntled, cowardly and untrustworthy, and they are still passionately hated by many Haitians. The U.S. seems to think that pacifying the former Haitian Army is only a matter of changing its uniforms and its name.

A larger problem is that neither the conventional nor the unconventional forces have proved very good at distinguishing between friend and enemy. Why does military intelligence identify Marc Lamour, a well-known peasant organizer for Lavalas, the movement founded by President Aristide, as a murderer and paramilitary attaché? And is Fraph, a widely recognized terrorist group, really the "loyal opposition" in Haiti, as Colonel Boyatt is in the habit of saying? The Army's ability to tell good guys from bad guys is critical to Haiti's future, and to the future of all missions like it.

Haiti nevertheless constitutes the best opportunity for the Special Forces and the advocates of unconventional warfare since Vietnam, where their attempt to win the hearts and minds of the peasants was a bloody failure. Unlike the Vietnamese, the Haitians regard the Special Forces as heroes — a "Peace Corps with guns." They do everything from repairing wells and delivering babies to arresting notorious thugs and rescuing victims of mob violence.

The Pentagon would be well advised to take note. These are the professional soldiers America will depend on with greater frequency as the nation navigates, in the name of peace and democracy, the shifting frontier between supercop and super bully. The Army is still learning to manage the ambiguous ad hoc conflicts of the new world order, in which finesse may well prove more vital than sheer fighting power. □

Foreign Affairs

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

China Syndrome

GUANGZHOU, China

I did my Christmas shopping early this year. Traveling around southern China and Hong Kong I bought Microsoft Word and Word Perfect for $10 each. Picked up a CD of Walt Disney's "The Lion King" for $4.50 and got an armful of Disney sweatshirts for small change. They were all pirated rip-offs produced in Chinese factories and they were about as hard to buy here as noodles and white rice.

Pretty brazen, you say, selling all this bootleg out in the open? Hey, that's nothing. Joseph Stiglitz, a member of President Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers, once got a letter from a Chinese pirate publisher asking him to write a special preface for the pirated Chinese edition of his own economics textbook — for which he was receiving no royalties.

How do you say chutzpah in Chinese?

Whether it's MS-DOS or Mickey Mouse, these pirate goods are only the most visible symbol of why China is becoming America's biggest trade headache, not just opportunity. The Clinton Administration has decided — rightly — that it is time to confront Beijing. Washington recently blocked China's entry into the new World Trade Organization, until it agrees to accept some basic norms of international commerce, and has threatened China with $2.8 billion in punitive tariffs if it does not start closing its 29 pirate CD factories.

The Chinese assumed American businesses would come to their rescue and force the Administration to back down, as happened last year when Mr. Clinton tried to link trade with China's human rights behavior. But, for now, most of the American business community has stood with the Administration. This has produced an important shift in the balance of power between Washington and Beijing.

Talking to American executives working in China, it is striking how many of them sound like members of Amnesty International these days. Why? Because businesses are learning that China's trade abuses and human rights abuses are just flip sides of the same coin — the absence of the rule of law. Many businesses thought they could finesse that absence of laws with "Guanxi," or "connections" with key Chinese officials.

But connections didn't help McDonald's when the Chinese ignored its 20-year lease and booted the Big Mac from its biggest restaurant in the world off Tiananmen Square, to make room for a commercial complex; they didn't help Lehman Brothers when it was stiffed by two state-owned Chinese trading companies, which allegedly owe it $100 million; they have not helped the many U.S. businesses that have been frozen out of the retail market in China by huge Chinese trading companies linked to the army and ruling families, and they haven't helped the foreign firms in China that are forced to pay triple what the Chinese do for airline tickets, office space or electricity.

China has been able to get away with this because it is so big that every major company felt it had to have a stake here. But lately, the

When human and trade rights meet.

risks of doing business in China have begun to outweigh the rewards because the elephant is turning out to be a rogue. Says John Kamm, a leading American business consultant in China: "The same arbitrary abuse of power that characterized China's overall human rights behavior is now the principal obstacle to doing successful business in China."

This is not going to be easy to remedy. Because when we ask China's leaders to observe basic trade norms, we are asking them to institute commercial laws, independent courts, anti-corruption measures, equal treatment for foreigners and to do away with their heads-I-win-tails-you-lose way of doing business. But all of that threatens China's political and military elite, who own a lot of the pirate factories and benefit from the arbitrariness and corruption.

Many American businesses thought that once we delinked human rights and trade, our China problem would go away. They were wrong. The same Chinese boot that stomped on democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in 1989 stomped on Ronald McDonald in Tiananmen Square in 1994. That is why before this story is over American business, which was so insistent on getting human rights and democracy off the agenda of Sino-American relations, will have to be at the forefront of putting them back there. □

Journal

FRANK RICH

Dance of Death

Take it from me: Critics make people mad. But usually they do so because of what they review. In a Christmas week essay in The New Yorker, Arlene Croce, the most gifted of dance critics, started a firestorm by declaring that she would neither see nor review "Still/Here," the acclaimed multimedia show by the choreographer Bill T. Jones. She then proceeded to trash "Still/Here" sight unseen as "victim art," on the grounds that Mr. Jones is H.I.V. positive and his show includes videotaped testimony from people with life-threatening illnesses.

"I can't review someone I feel sorry for or hopeless about," Ms. Croce wrote of Mr. Jones's interviewees, branding the choreographer himself "literally undiscussable." Using "Still/Here" as a crutch, she mounted a general, if scattershot, attack on American culture, spicing up the usual neoconservative hit list — the N.E.A., multiculturalists, the "permissive" 60's, Susan Sontag — with such new targets as "Schindler's List," "Angels in America" and, by implication, New Yorker contributors like Henry Louis Gates Jr. (who had written a laudatory profile of Mr. Jones) and the novelist Harold Brodkey (who has written in the magazine of his battle with AIDS).

To anyone who followed the culture wars of the Jesse Helms-Robert Mapplethorpe era, much of Ms. Croce's argument against art by "dissed blacks, abused women or disfranchised homosexuals" is as familiar as a catechism (as is much of the liberal argument already surfacing in response); she didn't even cool down her own victimized tone to acknowledge the fact that her side, not the counterculture, won the last election. What really made Ms. Croce's essay provocative was less her shrill assault on minority artists, or her refusal to review a major event, than her stance that death and the dying can be off limits as subjects for art — especially, but not exclusively, if the artists happen to be terminally ill themselves.

Arlene Croce sits this one out.

Would she refuse to watch the autobiographical work of the chronically ill Dennis Potter, author of "The Singing Detective" — or his harrowing final TV interview on the subject of his own cancer? Or Errol Morris's film "A Brief History of Time" about Stephen Hawking, the physicist crippled by Lou Gehrig's disease? What about Goya's graphic depiction of a diphtheria victim in "The Croup," or Oliver Sacks's account of his own injury and surgery in "A Leg to Stand On"?

The last two examples are favorite works of Sherwin Nuland, the Yale doctor whose own fine literary art — a book of Sacks-esque case histories of deaths by cancer, AIDS and other calamities titled "How We Die" — has demythologized death for many readers in the year since its publication. In an interview, Dr. Nuland attributed the proliferation of art about disease and death to the AIDS epidemic, pointedly noting that only some of that art enriches while much of it seeks only to "take advantage of our empathy."

Who would disagree? Like the Holocaust or the Civil War, AIDS has been responsible for more kitsch than culture. For every poetic epic like "Angels in America," there are bound to be at least a dozen examples of tear-jerking agitprop like the TV movie "And the Band Played On" (or worse). A critic's job is to separate the art from the junk rather than blur all distinctions out of ideological pique and dismiss the entire field.

That field is growing — and not just because AIDS has struck so virulently in the world of culture, compelling countless artists to confront mortality and make art about it while still in their creative prime. As the surprise popularity of Dr. Nuland's book also attests, there's a new hunger among Americans for art, frank information and even entertainment (witness television's "E.R.") about traditionally taboo matters of disease and dying.

To the extent AIDS is responsible for yanking death out of the American closet, history may show that the epidemic has changed our culture in much the way that the cataclysmic carnage of World War I transformed English literature. However it turns out, this is the story of our time. Amazingly, Ms. Croce has missed that story, just as surely as she has failed to see that dying is part of art because it is part of life. □

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FILM

At the Movie Theater It's Dumb, Dumber, Dumbest

By CARYN JAMES

Forget the theory of relativity. As the new movie "I.Q." tells you, what really matters about Albert Einstein (played by Walter Matthau) is that he is a great little matchmaker, able to see at a glance that his brilliant mathematician niece, Catherine (Meg Ryan), is secretly pining for a local mechanic named Ed (Tim Robbins). Ed is not a stupid guy, but he's no rocket scientist. In the lexicon of current American movies, Ed's lack of erudition is enough to hint that he's a decent man.

"Forrest Gump" is the most successful film to equate low I.Q. with inner goodness, but it has a lot of company on screen. In "Nell," which David Letterman more accurately called "Bride of Gump," Jodie Foster holds the moral high ground as a backwoods woman deprived of education and ordinary language. The doctors who study her discover that book learning is bad, primitivism is good.

"Nell," "I.Q." and "Forrest Gump" are breezy and enjoyable, with vast amounts of surface charm. But underneath, they are chilling in the way they link virtue with lack of intelligence. It is a theme that goes far beyond coincidence. Both "Nell" and "I.Q" were planned long before "Forrest Gump" became a catchword for holy innocence, so the newer films are not clones. Instead, they suggest a virulent anti-intellectualism in the air.

These anti-intellectual films are not the same as the goofy movies like the hit "Dumb and Dumber," a thoroughly uninventive comedy in which Jim Carrey's chipped front tooth and bowl haircut pass for humor. There have always been silly comedies about characters so inept they're funny, from "The Three Stooges" to "Wayne's World" and "Beavis and Butthead." But films have rarely reveled in their own idiocy with the bluntness of "Dumb and Dumber," whose very title suggests that you just can't be stupid enough on screen.

Though there is a difference between thoughtless, goofy movies and more serious ones, like "Forrest Gump," that think brains are bad, both may flow from similar sources. As the historian Richard Hofstadter noted in his classic 1963 book, "Anti-Intellectualism in American Life," suspicion of intellectuals runs deep in American history, ranging from the evangelical fervor of the colonists to the public distrust of an "egghead" like Adlai Stevenson in the 1952 Presidential campaign. That suspicion recurs in cycles and is especially prevalent when rational thinking seems to fail society.

In movies like "Nell" and "Forrest Gump," with their simple-is-good conservatism, the uneducated heroes reflect discontent with supposedly smart political leaders. (How many Rhodes scholars does it take to pass a health care bill?) They also reflect discomfort with the technological sophistication that threatens to overwhelm everyday life. People who can't yet navigate the information superhighway feel great next to Nell, who can't even drive a car. Viewers are reassured by an Einstein who suggests that physics is piffle next to love.

No one wants to discount the importance of love, emotion and goodness, of course. What is insidious about these films is that they do the opposite, creating a head-heart split that makes intelligence the villain. When people in the movie industry began to wonder why the critically praised "Quiz Show" was a box-office disappointment, a frequent guess was that the film was too intellectual for mainstream audiences.

In fact, honor, not intelligence, was the issue "Quiz Show" explored, and there were other factors, like marketing, that might have let the film down at the box office. But Hollywood's quick response was that viewers don't want to think too hard and won't warm up to characters smarter than they are, whether it's the college professor Charles Van Doren or the knowledgeable working-class Herb Stempel.

That was not a problem with "Forrest Gump." The film's allure relies entirely on Tom Hanks, an actor so appealing he makes stupidity seem an attractive option. With his low I.Q., Forrest Gump at first appears to be an idiot savant; instead he is a 20th-century American Candide, an innocent for whom everything turns out all right. The Gumpism "Stupid is as stupid does" sounds awfully convincing when it comes from a guy who survives Vietnam, becomes a shrimp tycoon and makes another bundle of money investing in Apple computers.

As he floats through decades of United States history, Gump embodies the American dream: he is an uneducated, self-made millionaire. Gump does have a kind heart. The film's bedrock belief, and most pleasant fantasy, is that simple virtue brings earthly rewards. As Gump stumbles into successes that wilier characters could never approach, his success is always tied to his lack of intellect.

"Forrest Gump" is part of a long tradition of anti-intellectualism in American movies. The new live-action "Rudyard Kipling's Jungle Book" and the classic, animated "Jungle Book" are part of that tradition. They are variations on the Tarzan myth, in which a man raised in isolation from the civilized world is all the better for it.

And though Jodie Foster is a far cry from Johnny Weissmuller, the theme of "Nell" is not all that different from that of a Tarzan film; Nell's simple goodness come from her isolated upbringing, away from corrupt society. Directed by Michael Apted, "Nell" is much smarter than a jungle movie.

In fact, the film flatters its audience's intelligence with Nell's teasing private language, which viewers can partly figure out. "Chickabee, chickabee," she says, a word that sounds like chickadee and seems to be some term of endearment. Liam Neeson and Natasha Richardson, as the doctors who observe Nell in her shack, find that "eviduh" means evildoer and "ga injuh" is guardian angel. The audience gets to feel as smart as the doctors, only to learn, as they do, that smart isn't everything.

Nell is kind and trusting and has a grasp of emotions the doctors lack. She urges them not to fight with each other. She croons "chickabee" when they are distraught. Eventually, in her private language translated by Dr. Lovell (Mr. Neeson), Nell pleads before a court for the right to return to her simple life, which she prefers to the big, civilized world. In the movie's view, society is full of educated eviduhs, and primitives like Nell are blessed.

There are no primitives in "I.Q." Ed, the mechanic, reads popular-science magazines, making him unlearned only in relation to Einstein and his genius pals. In this film, deftly directed by Fred Schepisi, intelligence is not bad until it interferes with the emotions. Einstein worries about Catherine, who thinks she should marry a man as intelligent as her uncle — or at least as intelligent as herself. "She's too smart here," Einstein says, pointing to his head. "But not here," he adds, pointing to his heart, and illustrating the great suspicion of the mind on which all these films rest.

■

Because Catherine will never let herself fall for a lowly mechanic, Einstein schemes to convince her that Ed has discovered cold fusion in his spare time — not Einstein's most brilliant idea but not a bad one either. Ed almost pulls it off. Still, in the way of all romantic comedies, the heroine will come to her senses. In "I.Q." that means leaving her brains behind as she goes off with Ed. He is a vast improvement over her cold-blooded, professorial fiancé. The film doesn't provide the best choice of all — a warmhearted genius, a guy like Uncle Albert.

And despite the film's apparent respect for intelligence, smartness is the butt of some hoary absent-minded-scientist jokes. Einstein and his friends — Godel, Podolsky and Liebknecht — trot around Princeton like the cutest of little old men, to whom science is a sideline and matchmaking the soul of life. "Three of the greatest minds of the 20th century, and between them they can't change a light bulb," Einstein says of his friends.

There is an old attitude here as well as an old joke, but it is a powerful idea on screen, and it's growing stronger. With films called "Dummies," "The Stupids" and "The Magnificent Idiot" in the works, there's one thing you can count on: no one will be making a movie called "Smart and Smarter" any time soon.



Demme Todd/Paramount Pictures

In "I.Q." Tim Robbins, right, woos the niece (Meg Ryan) of Albert Einstein (Walter Matthau)

MUSIC

The Voice of Experience Sings of Winter Wandering

By CORI ELLISON

HOUSTON

Members of the Houston Symphony seemed bemused at the behavior of their conductor during a recent rehearsal of Bach's "St. John Passion" at Jones Hall here. "You are the chattering mob, the Greek chorus!" he exhorted the wind players. Moments later, he wheeled around and spun out the Evangelist's tenor recitatives in suavely intoned, perfectly limned phrases.

Such double duty does not faze the German tenor Peter Schreier, who will make a rare visit to New York on Jan. 20 to sing Schubert's "Winterreise" at Carnegie Hall. "The Evangelist is the actual conductor of the Passion, Mr. Schreier insisted in his hotel suite across the street from the hall. "He sets the articulation, the breathing, the dynamics. If it's sung properly, that's really all it takes."

Though Mr. Schreier, 59, has long been in the front ranks of the world's lieder specialists, his foray into Schubert's wintry masterwork is his first New York recital in six years. He pondered the reasons for his long absence.

"The art that I am performing is not a very spectacular art," he said. "It's house music, somewhat intimate, and perhaps the number of people interested is not that large." He looked at once sage and ingenuous as a shy smile turned his aqua-blue eyes instantly boyish behind professorial wire-rimmed glasses.

At such moments, it is hard to believe that Mr. Schreier will turn 60 in July. His father, a cantor at a church in Meissen, provided his first musical training. At 9, Mr. Schreier made his operatic debut at the Semper Opera House in nearby Dresden, as the Second Spirit in Mozart's "Zauberflöte." The next year, he began an eight-year tour of duty with the Dresden Kreuzchor, the city's premier choir, cutting his teeth on the music of Bach.

"As a young choirboy, I absorbed Bach like you drink your mother's milk," Mr. Schreier said. "Bach is the basis for all of my musical performance, the essential place from where I work."

Cori Ellison writes and lectures frequently on opera and vocal music.

Mr. Schreier was marked out for a singer's career early on by Rudolf Mauersberger, the director of the Kreuzchor, but his adolescence held uncertainties. "Since I was a boy alto, I already had an idea that I would turn into a tenor," he said, "but there is always the worry that the boy's voice won't turn out so well as a man. My voice changed very late. I was 16 years old, and I had to stop singing for half a year. So I also studied conducting, with the idea 'What do I do if something happens to my voice?' "

Peter Schreier makes a rare New York appearance with Schubert's 'Winterreise.'

His anxieties proved needless. He was accepted into the studio program of the Dresden State Opera in 1961, and an appearance the next year as Belmonte in Mozart's "Entführung aus dem Serail" jump-started his career. In 1963, he was engaged as a leading lyric tenor by the Berlin State Opera, and the late 60's brought debuts in the other cities in which his operatic career would be centered: Munich, Vienna, Bayreuth and Salzburg. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut in 1967, as Tamino in "Die Zauberflöte."

■

But Mr. Schreier has made his most indelible impression in oratorio and art song, media to which his lithe, clear, somewhat reedy instrument is ideally suited. And one gets the feeling that he regards his voice, in the most literal sense, as an instrument: a means to an end, which in his case is telling a story. This he does masterfully, employing a tonal palette rather limited in range, color and dynamics but rich in imagination, taste and, above all, feeling.

The Carnegie recital will present Mr. Schreier's first New York performance of "Winterreise," which he added to his repertory only a decade ago, singing and recording it at the reopening of the newly refurbished Semper Opera House, with Sviatoslav Richter at the piano.

"I feel that I didn't have the human experience and the maturity to sing it before I was 50, to understand the journey of the Wanderer in 'Winterreise,' " Mr. Schreier said. "He is not necessarily an older person, but certainly he is a human being who has experienced life in its more difficult aspects."

He has since performed the work more than 30 times, and in 1991, he re-recorded it with the pianist Andras Schiff. His partner in New York will be Alexei Lubimov.

"Sometimes accompanying is regarded as a minor function, but this certainly is not the case," Mr. Schreier asserted.

■

Armen Guzelimian, a respected Los Angeles-based pianist who accompanied Mr. Schreier on an American recital tour in 1991, confirms that the singer's attitude carries into performance. "With Schreier, I never felt like I was accompanying," he said. "I felt that we were jointly creating the moment. He never put his foot down and said, 'This is the way I do it.' He listened to what I was doing and worked from that. Even the way he uses his body, he's automatically giving clear musical signals. It doesn't surprise me that he's a successful conductor."

Mr. Schreier's dual career is hardly unique among singers; Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau flirted with conducting for a time, and Plácido Domingo has developed a small but lively trade on the podium. But Mr. Schreier's career is remarkable for its balance: conducting accounts for fully 40 percent of his activity; singing, the rest.

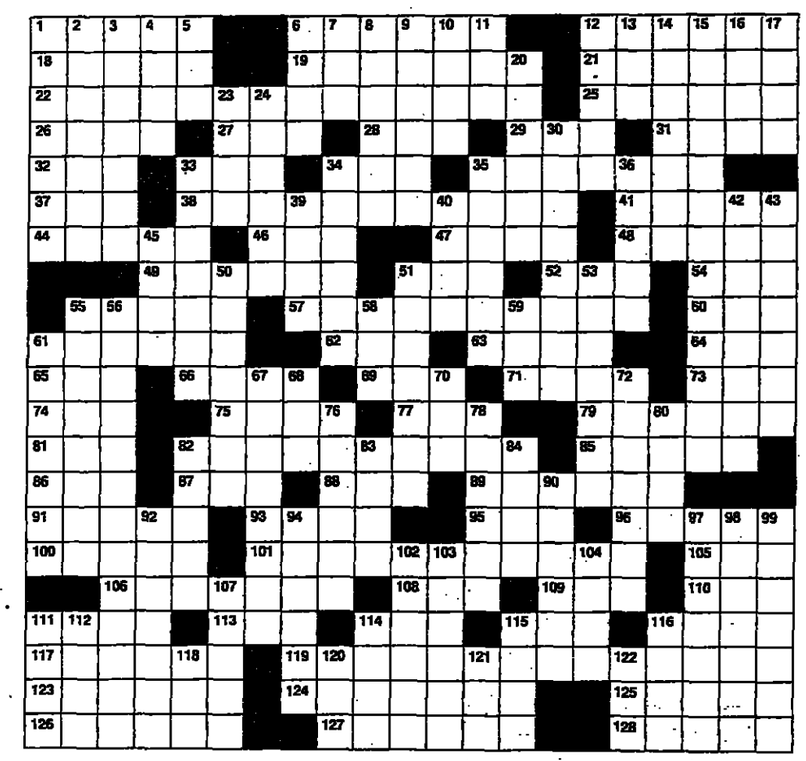
Despite his early study of conducting, he didn't begin doing it professionally until 1970. "Basically, it happened by chance," he said. "Some of the musicians in the Berlin Staatskapelle studied singing with me, and they asked me, 'Didn't you study some conducting? Do you want to conduct a concert?' I was delighted."

Mr. Schreier has led performances of such major works as the Bach Passions, Handel's "Alcina" and Mozart's Requiem, "Don Giovanni" and "Nozze di Figaro."

"I'm not so much interested in the large orchestra," he said. "You can't work as personally with the musicians. As a conductor, I like to be somewhat more on an equal level with the other musicians. I don't want to be a czar. I'm not that kind of person anyway."

THE COUCH POTATO WORKOUT

By Nancy Nicholson Joline / Edited by Will Shortz



ACROSS

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17 *Tear*
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115 Not free
116 Actress Kaminska et al.
118 Author LeShan
120 A Turner
121 Letter ender, for short
122 45 r.p.m. introducer

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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هكذا من الأصل

A look at mother's, not baby's, first year

PARENTING

ELIZABETH KASTOR

THE YEAR AFTER CHILDBIRTH: Surviving and Enjoying the First Year of Motherhood. By Sheila Kitzinger. Scribner's, New York. 302 pp. $25.

SHEILA Kitzinger knows what it feels like: "The ordinary divisions of time – into morning, afternoon, evening and night, and before and after meals – have lost meaning.

"In their place, there seems to be a long, uncoiling, endless ribbon – feeding, changing, cleaning up, soothing and rocking and patting, starting the laundry, tidying up a bit, feeding again, bouncing the baby up and down, managing to wash yourself and pull on clothes if you are lucky, feeding again, carrying the baby around, drying baby things, grabbing something to eat, picking the baby up, feeding, dashing to the shops, and then feeding again because the baby is still fretful."

For anyone who has lived through the first year of motherhood, Kitzinger's description is nightmarishly familiar: the constancy, the chaos, the combination of elation and boredom.

In *The Year After Childbirth*, the English author of 18 books about pregnancy and motherhood tackles that milk-drenched, emotion-ravaged time often relegated to a brief chapter at the end of books of baby advice. That she focuses on the mother and not the baby is an act of generosity in a society often dominated by the cult of the Perfect Child ("Should I start her on carrots today or Tuesday? Is she too young for dance classes at 18 months? What do the experts say?").

Most of the book addresses what it feels like to be newly responsible for a human life, from the swerve of emotions to the pain of urinating, from nutrition to breast-feeding to sex.

SINCE CHILDBIRTH is inevitably bound up with the issues of women's health, sexuality and economics, any writing about it is animated by a political pulse.

Unlike authors who wrap themselves in the voices of medical wisdom, Kitzinger is completely honest about her stance.

She is skeptical of Western society's treatment and expectations of mothers, an advocate for women's impressions and emotions, and a strong critic of technological intervention in birth. Again and again, she points out ways in which mothers in American society are isolated from their families, from their neighbors, from the inherited wisdom and support of mothers who have gone before them.

Hers is an avowedly feminist perspective, and this is for both good and ill.

Kitzinger argues against excessive self-criticism of the sort often fueled by baby-advice books. Anyone who has relied on the wildly popular *What to Expect When You're Expecting* has valued the factual information that volume provides. But that same reader also has probably spent too much time attempting to squeeze yet one more tablespoon of wheat germ into her fat-free yogurt. Kitzinger counsels moderation on such topics.

"If you already know what nourishing food is, now is not the time to raise anxiety levels," she writes. "Yes, you want to be a good mother, but important elements in this are being relaxed (some of the time), happy (some of the time) and able to enjoy your child (some of the time). All that is made much more difficult if you are worrying about what you eat."



During mother's first 365 days, ordinary divisions of time lose their meaning, and she alternates between elation and boredom. (Lisa Pleskow)

She also makes a point of writing supportively about mothers who are single or disabled or in financial distress, rather than assuming all her readers spend their days in suburban, married bliss. But Kitzinger is also so hostile to high-tech birth procedures – which she blames for much postpartum depression, saying women who have had technical intervention often feel "raped" – and the traditional, non-midwife medical establishment that she may alienate some readers.

Still, readers who are sympathetic to Kitzinger's beliefs or are flexible enough to ignore them will find *In the Year After Childbirth* useful. Do not, necessarily, read the whole book, but search the index for what you need and welcome her voice of understanding and appreciation.

(The Washington Post)

Lack of care in the frozen wilderness

EARTHLY CONCERNS

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

ARGENTINIAN scientists are still racing to clean up an 80,000-liter oil spill in Antarctica before the summer season sets in and the fuel-soaked snow begins to melt.

Although there is no hope of removing all the oil spilled last July in Argentina's Marimbo base, the goal is to protect the unique wildlife there by preventing major pollution of the surrounding waterways.

Meanwhile, plans to legislate protective measures for Antarctica's environment seem stalled.

In 1991, the 26 nations of the Antarctic Treaty adopted a first protocol that would impose stricter liabilities and restrictions on scientists, governments, tour operators and environmental groups.

But it has not been enacted, because only 10 nations have ratified it.

Under these proposals, anybody operating in Antarctica would have to carry full insurance against environmental damage and contribute to an environmental protection fund.

The private companies operating tourist cruises to the area are most concerned about these measures. Some 8,000 people visit Antarctica annually, and this number is expected to increase drastically in the near future.

Scientific stations, environment study camps and government bases have a vested interest in obeying the laws for protecting the environment because they are held responsible, but the tourist shares nothing of this burden.

This is sometimes reflected in carelessness that causes serious damage to the fragile ecosystem of this frozen wilderness.

BUT IF governments do ratify these new protective measures, the tour companies have a loophole that will make it impossible to force them to rectify any damage caused by their passengers.

They can register their vessels in another country that is not a signatory of the Antarctic Treaty, in which case they need not bother with expensive environmental damage insurance or contributions to a fund.

Many of the 60 cruise ships visiting Antarctica already sail under flags of convenience. According to a study published by Cambridge's Scott Polar Research Institute, 22 cruise ships were registered in Liberia, 13 in the Bahamas and three in Panama. There were also vessels from nonsignatory nations, including Russia and Poland.

Children have the right to peace of mind and a quiet home

LAW REPORT

ASHER FELIX LANDAU

In the Supreme Court, sitting as a Court of Civil Appeals, before the president, Justice Meir Shamgar, and justices Dov Levin, Gavriel Bach, Eliezer Goldberg and Dalia Dorner, in the matter of Zvi Kirschner, appellant, versus Sima Kirschner and others (C.A.4480/93).

ZVI and Sima Kirschner married in 1974 and have a daughter, aged 16, and two sons, aged [illegible] and 10.

The couple quarreled often, and Sima Kirschner turned to the Tel Aviv District Court repeatedly for orders restraining her husband from being in the family home.

The court issued several orders for limited periods. But it also rejected some of her applications, suspecting that her real motive was to pressure her husband into yielding to her property claims.

The court's attitude changed, however, after the two older children suffered severe emotional crises. A court-appointed clinical psychologist and a social worker testified that the home atmosphere created tensions which might have cost the children's lives. The professionals testified that the children still needed their mother and that their condition improved when the father was out of the house; they concluded it was imperative that the father leave the home.

The court issued a restraining order for an unlimited period. It also ordered the husband to pay maintenance for the children. He appealed to the Supreme Court against both orders.

JUSTICE SHAMGAR, delivering the judgment of the court, pointed out that the maintenance issue was one of general importance to the public.

He then dealt in detail with the family situation that led to the restraining order.

The District Court emphasized that there was no allegation of the husband being violent, and no ground for a specific finding against him. The sole basis for the order was the children's welfare and the urgent need to remove the cause of their distress.

The president then reviewed several precedents and legal writings relating to the requirements for granting such restraining orders. The wife was entitled to a quiet and tranquil home which derived from her right to maintenance.

The recognized requirements were that the wife had to be in real danger created by violence; the court had to decide who was responsible for the quarrels and when they began; and the order had to be given for a fixed period. In exceptional cases, an order could be issued for "emotional violence" such as degradation. It had also been held that the children's "quiet and tranquil" home was bound up with that of their mother.

In his view, Justice Shamgar continued, a father's duty to provide not only his wife but also his children with a quiet and peaceful home flowed directly from his duty toward them and not only indirectly from his duty toward their mother. This was based both on their personal law (Jewish law) and on the laws of capacity and guardianship.

It also followed from the precedents that far-reaching steps to keep a father from his home were justified only in the most exceptional circumstances, such as in the present case in which the children's lives could be seriously endangered.

He considered the relevant sections of the Law for the Prevention of Family Violence of 1991. Defensive orders under that Law, he said, had no connection with those made under the husband's personal law, section 12 providing clearly that existing laws were not to be affected by provisions of the Law for the Prevention of Family Violence. In any event, the above Law referred specifically to cases of family violence, which were completely absent in the present case.

Concluding this issue, Justice Shamgar held it would be preferable to set a time limit on the restraining order to enable the court to keep the family situation under review. The order, therefore, would be limited to two years.

The district court, the president continued, had awarded the children maintenance until the age of 21 or their completion of military service; the amount would be reduced by 22 percent when they reached 18.

The duty of maintenance was laid down in the Family Law Amendment (Maintenance) Law of 1959. Under section 3(a), a person is liable for the maintenance of his minor children, namely, those under 18, and those of his spouse, in accordance with his personal law.

Under section 4 he is also liable for the maintenance of his parents and those of his spouse, his children of full age (those who have completed their 18th year) and their spouses, his grandchildren, his grandparents and those of his spouse, and his brothers and sisters and those of his spouse.

However, under section 5, a person is not liable to provide maintenance for a family member unless and in so far as the following three conditions are fulfilled: he is able to do so after his own requirements and those of his spouse, and of his and his spouse's minor children, have been supplied; the family member is unable, in spite of efforts on his part, to supply his own requirements through work or from his property or any other source; and the family member is unable to obtain maintenance under section 2 or 3 or from an estate or from a family member who precedes the person in question according to the order in section 4.

It was necessary to determine the appropriate legal policy applicable in this context, Justice Shamgar continued, having regard to factors such as religion, tradition and current trends. Norms of conduct changed. Jewish law, adaptable to changing circumstances, was the logical basis for the relevant legislation. It imposed an absolute duty of child support only to age six.

Following changing norms, it was extended from time to time to older children on the basis of "charity." It was again extended by regulations of the Chief Rabbinate as an absolute duty to 15 and, again on the basis of "charity," to 18.

In his view, one of the relevant elements was the compulsory military service of young people under the Military Service Law (Consolidated Version) of 1986. Such a person was unable – and, indeed, was usually not permitted – to support himself, and his pay did not suffice. The army assumed that he depended on his parents during leave or if serving near home and not living in a camp.

He then referred to section 5 of the National Insurance Law (Consolidated Version) of 1968; sections 56 and 57(a) of the Succession Law of 1965; sections 1(b), 8 and 29(a) of the Fallen Soldiers' Families (Pensions and Rehabilitation) Law of 1950, and regulation 6(1) of the Victims of Traffic Accidents Compensation (Periodic Payments) Regulations of 1978.

It was true, he said, that all these provisions referred to the dependents of people killed or injured in various situations, and did not deal directly with the issue now considered. However, they indicated that the Knesset believed a young person was dependent on parents until ages – varying in the provisions cited – between 21 and 23. It was also noteworthy that the Family Law of 1959 preceded nearly all the above provisions.

Justice Shamgar cited the leading precedent of Yehezkel (C.A.5/84), in which it was held that the relevant age was an individual matter, depending on the facts of each case. It could be 18, or the conclusion of military service, or even later.

The precedents also ruled, he said, that if no evidence were adduced – as in the present case – it was to be presumed that dependence ended at 18; the party arguing otherwise was obliged to prove its contention.

The above ruling, the president continued, was inconsistent with reality in Israel. The truth was that dependence continued until the completion of military service, and this was to be presumed unless the contrary was proved.

After interpreting the above sections of the Family Law Amendment (Maintenance) Law, of 1959, in the light of Jewish law, including the relevance of the financial position of the parents and the needs of the child, Justice Shamgar held that the presumption which he had laid down conformed with the requirements of that Law.

He also accepted the presumption that the support required for a serving soldier would be a third of the support before his enlistment. Moreover, the same would apply if some time elapsed between his reaching the age of 18 and his enlistment, since it was sometimes difficult for a young person to obtain work in the interim. In both cases, the presumption could be contradicted by evidence.

FOR THE above reasons, the appeal against the order restraining the husband from being in his home was allowed in part, the order being limited to two years. The appeal against the order to pay maintenance for the children was dismissed, the amount during their army service being a third of that paid between the ages of 15 and 18.

Nahum Shtorch appeared for the husband, and Eliahu Stern appeared for the wife and children.

The judgment was given on October 12, 1994.

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THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

8 MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1995

Treasury considers firing Shikun Ufituah manager

Safran blamed for repeatedly delaying sale

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Treasury is considering sacking Shikun Ufituah managing director Amnon Safran for failing to cooperate with the privatization of the company.

In a blistering Treasury position paper released yesterday, Shikun Ufituah managers are blamed for the repeated delays to the sale of the company.

The sale process, which has taken three years, was hampered by the fact that the company was disorganized, lacking proper record-keeping in the areas of land rights, land registration and relations with the government concerning administrative property.

The frequent crises between the firm's management and the Treasury over getting Shikun Ufituah in shape for privatization ended up delaying by six months the company's public issue, at which point the stock market had dropped.

Since the government pulled the public issue last February, it pursued a plan to sell between 52 percent to 100% of the company to private investors.

After nearly a year, Shikun Ufituah has not provided investors bidding for the company an orderly inventory of its land holdings. According to Treasury officials, should the firm fail to make the information available to investors for a week, beginning January 17, the Treasury will fire Safran.

Under the Government Companies Law, recalcitrant managers of government companies undergoing privatization can be fired upon the finance minister's approval of the Government Companies Authority director's recommendation.

The provision was included in the law to minimize the obstacles on the road to privatization.

However, a senior Treasury official explained that the government has refrained so far from firing Shikun Ufituah's managers for fear the present sale bid will be further delayed.

"If the manager is changed, the sale will be delayed for a long time until the new manager has things in hand, but we are getting to a situation that any further delay will justify the switch," the official said.

However, the government will complete the sale by the end of the month, should everything go well.

Galit Lipkis-Beck adds:

The Phoenix-Lifshir-Magor consortium yesterday announced it is withdrawing its plans to compete in the tender.

The remaining seven groups have a January 31 deadline to submit bids.



Amnon Safran has until end of month to shape up. (Ran Erde)

During the last few months, the potential contenders have criticized the company for its wave of land purchasers which reportedly reached $100m. last year. The contenders said the company purchased land at a time when prices were very high.

Gov't rejects bids for Israel Shipyards tender

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE government will accept none of the three bids in the recent tender for the sale of Israel Shipyards, Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar announced yesterday.

Kessar said he would strenuously object to the sale of the shipyards "for a mess of pottage" to anyone.

The decision to reject the bids, which Kessar called insultingly low, was made yesterday in a meeting with Finance Minister Avraham Shohat. They agreed that alternatives to the immediate sale should be submitted for the approval of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Privatization within two weeks.

In response, Oded Gold – representing Admiral, a group of investors from Israel and abroad, said on Israel Radio that if the government had wanted a minimum bid, it should have specified so in the original tender.

By not accepting any of the bids, the state would be making it much harder to sell any of the other companies it intended to privatize, Gold said.

He said the apparent reason for the rejection was not that the bids were too low, but special interest groups pressured Kessar to reject the bid for fear that workers would be fired.

Gold said his group offered $8 million, but it would also be assuming another $8m. in debts and have to invest another $20m. in equipment to modernize the company, which he described as resembling a British shipyard from the 19th century.

Kessar said he would not abet an end-of-season sale of government property. It was not necessary to sell the shipyards, a going industry with skilled workers, at any price.

By accepting one of the present bids, the government would be handing a $6m. check to the buyer, he said.

Kessar said after the deadline for bids, another company offered almost double the highest bid. He also said there was a possibility the Ports and Railway Authority would operate the firm.

He said the company had plenty of orders for 1995, and there was no haste in getting rid of it. He added there had to be an assurance that if the shipyards did shut down, the 350 dunams on which it was located would revert to the Ports Authority.

Central bank to intervene in long-term bond market

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Bank of Israel announced yesterday it will buy NIS 25 million in bonds tomorrow from the public as a means to inject cash into the economy.

This will mark the first time the central bank has intervened in the long-term bond market.

Up until this year, the central bank supplied enough money to the economy through its tenders to commercial banks.

Failure to provide enough cash to accommodate for economic growth and inflation would result in higher interest rates.

The central bank will today publicize the series of bonds and maximal amounts it is interested in buying.

The Bank of Israel notes, however, it is not obligated to buy the whole quantity advertised.

The public, through commercial banks and other stock market members, will provide the central bank with price quotes for each series it wants to sell.

If the central bank decides to buy the bonds, it will pay the quoted price.

The Bank of Israel will not intervene as a buyer in the long-term bond market more than once a month.

Israel Chemicals sale said on target

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE sale of a 24.9 percent controlling interest in Israel Chemicals (ICL) to private investors will go ahead as scheduled, despite chairman Victor Medina's resignation announcement last week, the Treasury said yesterday.

Government Companies Authority director Yossi Nitzani said Medina agreed to stay on until the sale is completed.

The new owners were expected, in any case, to replace board members, including the chairman, with their representatives.

The three groups bidding for control of the company will have until January 19 to submit their final bids, and the government is expected to choose the winner by the end of the month.

Until then, the government has to settle several outstanding issues – including amending ICL's Dead Sea Concession Law, the formula to calculate the royalties the company pays for phosphates, changes to the Business Registration Law and extending mining and leasing rights in Mishor Rotem.

Nitzani said the Treasury wants the cabinet to approve all the changes on Sunday, so the sale can go ahead as planned.

The cabinet legislative committee will meet this week to approve the legislative changes, Nitzani said.

An international issue of 22% of ICL's shares, which was to take place in February, has been delayed to March.

According to Nitzani, the extension will give the Knesset time to make the required legislative changes before the issue.

A prospectus based on September's balance sheet can be used until March, explained Nitzani.

Shahal leaves Energy Ministry

RACHEL NEIMAN

MOSHE Shahal left the Energy and Infrastructure Ministry yesterday afternoon.

Shahal, who remains police minister, was forced to give up his portfolio to Gonen Segev to ensure Yi'ud's entrance into the government.

In a parting move, Shahal signed a draft of a long-awaited voluntary treaty with six of Israel's leading natural gas companies – including Pazgaz, Amisragas, Petrolgas and Supergaz.

Shahal said the intent was to protect consumers from what he called unfair practices by establishing higher service standards than those required by law.

Shahal said one of his greatest accomplishments as energy minister was convincing the Israel Electric Corporation's workers to introduce market competition.

This enabled 15 percent of supply, or 1,500 megawatts, to be handed over to private entrepreneurs.

"Not many would be able to achieve this," said Shahal, attributing his victory to a relationship of trust.

"I did the same with Bezek/Motorola," he said, adding that the fuel market law would pass within a few months.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Fruit growers reject proposal: The Fruit Growers Council board unanimously rejected the Agriculture Ministry and Fruit Board's proposal to solve the sharp movement in the price of summer fruit by removing surplus.

Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur has proposed automatic removal of surplus when the wholesale weekly price of a particular fruit falls below 80 percent of production costs. According to this plan, farmers would be compensated for 60% of production costs of the remaining fruit. The government would give one shekel for every shekel farmers invest in production costs.

Banks announce increase in interest on savings plans: The commercial banks yesterday announced an increase in interest rates on saving plans, in an attempt to attract new clients and maintain existing customers.

Bank Leumi said it increased interest on its two-year index-linked plan to 3% from 2.75%. The bank is also offering 3.5% interest on savings of more than NIS 100,000.

First International Bank announced that customers who have earned at least NIS 200 from its customer profit-sharing scheme can take advantage of the bank's high interest investment route. The bank reported customers will be able to invest the money received from the scheme in a special five-year, index-linked saving plan or an index-linked deposit at 10% annual interest.

Shohat authorized to reintroduce Economic Arrangements Law: The cabinet yesterday authorized Finance Minister Avraham Shohat to re-introduce the Economic Arrangements Law to the Knesset. The law was pulled at the end of last year when it became apparent that coalition chairman Eli Dayan was going to attach to it an amendment mandating a long school day.

Treasury spokesman Elisheva Braun said no agreement has been reached so far with Dayan not to amend the law. However, the bill is being reintroduced to enable the Knesset Finance Committee to make amendments so laws that expired at the end of law year, which were extended, will apply retroactively to the beginning of the year.

Trade talks with Jordan resume: The trade talks with Jordan resumed yesterday in Dir Ala, Jordan. The sides discussed trade, customs, labor and product standards issues. Last week, the Israeli delegation presented the Jordanians with a draft Most Favored Nation trade treaty.

Investment Center begins operating new unit: The Industry and Trade Ministry's Investment Center began operating a support and coordinating unit to follow the establishment of approved projects. The unit will be run by Business Data International.

The unit will help identify difficulties in the face of establishing plants and making investments and improve the contact between the center and the plants. The program is being tested first in development towns in the Negev. The unit has already visited 15 plants in Beersheba, Sderot and Ofakim.

IBM buys 51% of outstanding shares in Taltan: IBM has purchased 51 percent of the outstanding shares in software company Taltan, which specializes in imaging and simulation systems, photographic manipulation and data processing.

CORRECTION

Aladdin Knowledge Systems is purchasing a software product line from Eliashim MicroComputers and not as reported on Friday.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT JERUSALEM
Edva Jenkins, Petitioner vs.
Stephen Jenkins, Respondent
To: Stephen Jenkins
Request for the dissolution of marriage.
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Advocate Marcia Wolfish
30 King George St. Jerusalem Tel: 02-243228
ds-292p

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Redemption Price: 94.72
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TARGET (טרגט)
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 5.1.95
Purchase Price: 132.51
Redemption Price: 130.43
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JERUSALEM DISTRICT ELECTRICITY Co. Ltd.
Tender No. 1/95
Distribution Transformers
Bids are invited for the supply of distribution transformers, as detailed in the tender documents.
A copy of the specifications and conditions of tender can be obtained from the Secretary of the Board of Directors, 15 Salah el-Din Street, East Jerusalem, Tel. 282335/6/7, until January 31, 1995.
Bids should be submitted not later than 12 noon on March 15, 1995.
ds-319p

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
The Accountant General
Bids are invited for the supply of goods of various types, required by government agencies located throughout Israel:
Tender 23/94 - Standard Continuous Stationery
Tender 25/94 - Paper in Small Packets and in Large Reels
Tender 26/94 - Various Paper Products
The previously announced final date for submitting bids for these tenders (December 1, 1994) has been changed to Monday, January 23, 1995 (1:00 p.m.).
Additional details from 02-317428, 02-317418.
No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.
ds-316p

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (9.1.95)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	5.825	6.125	6.875
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.875	5.375	6.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.125	4.375	4.875
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.125	3.250	3.625
Yen (10 million yen)	0.750	0.875	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (6.1.95)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.3350	3.3820	—	—	3.3550
U.S. dollar	2.9960	3.0373	2.94	3.08	3.0220
German mark	1.9296	1.9569	1.89	1.98	1.9479
Pound sterling	4.6833	4.7494	4.59	4.80	4.7226
French franc	0.5598	0.5677	0.54	0.58	0.5644
Japanese yen (100)	2.9636	3.0054	2.91	3.05	2.9899
Dutch florin	1.7227	1.7471	1.69	1.77	1.7376
Swiss franc	2.3003	2.3326	2.26	2.37	2.3193
Swedish krona	0.3890	0.4048	0.39	0.41	0.4030
Norwegian krone	0.4424	0.4487	0.43	0.46	0.4462
Danish krone	0.4917	0.4987	0.48	0.51	0.4955
Finnish mark	0.6313	0.6402	0.62	0.65	0.6344
Canadian dollar	2.1376	2.1676	2.10	2.20	2.1599
Australian dollar	2.2987	2.3311	2.25	2.36	2.3195
S. African rand	0.8424	0.8543	0.74	0.86	0.8501
Belgian franc (10)	0.9380	0.9512	0.92	0.97	0.9460
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7402	2.7789	2.69	2.82	2.7683
Italian lira (1000)	1.8466	1.8727	1.80	1.91	1.8604
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.17	4.43	4.2308
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.85	0.90	0.9670
ECU	3.6731	3.7249	—	—	3.7039
Irish punt	4.6257	4.6951	4.52	4.80	4.6576
Spanish pesets (100)	2.2546	2.2864	2.19	2.34	2.2731

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

هكذا من الأصل

صكرا من الاصل

Key Representative Rates		Change
US dollar	NIS 3.0220	--.-%
Sterling	NIS 4.7226	--.-%
Mark	NIS 1.9479	--.-%

Housing prices expected to continue rising until '97

REAL ESTATE ROUNDUP

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE rise in housing prices is expected to come to an end in 1997, according to a survey of the housing market conducted by Dun and Bradstreet and the economic consultancy firm Dubin.

The report said that new housing starts will catch up with demand by 1997.

According to the forecast, there will be a shortage of 10,000 apartments at the end of the year. The companies forecast demand for new apartments will reach 50,000 this year, while construction starts will reach 40,000.

Last year, road construction starts fell 12.5 percent from last year, despite the government's efforts to increase infrastructure development.

"The fall in road construction starts in 1994 surprised us," said Doron Dafna, assistant vice president of marketing at Dun and Bradstreet. "We expected the government, which has spent much time discussing investments in infrastructure, would have made sure these investments would not fall more than 10%."

Dun and Bradstreet said the Israel Lands Administration method of marketing land has significantly contributed to the last few years' rise in apartment prices. Dun and Bradstreet said the administration's criteria for give construction permits has created bottlenecks in the sector.

The report concludes the rate of construction activity has significantly improved during the last few years. Construction of an apartment building has fallen to an average of 20 months from 26 months in 1990.

Shtang Yehuda & Sons has started construction of the Royal Park luxury residential development in Eilat.

The development will be situated on a 13.5-dunam plot in the heart of the hotel district, close to the Laguna Hotel.

The developers plan to construct 19, three-storey buildings, including 150 apartments of one, two and three bedrooms. The buildings will surround a garden, and all apartments will face it. The complex will include a private swimming pool.

The price of a one-room, 37-42 square meter studio apartment, starts at $126,000. A two-room, 59-63 sq.m. apartment starts at $180,000, and a three-room, 61-81 sq.m. apartment starts at $245,000.

All the apartments have a garden or balcony.

Gav Yam (Bayside Land Corp.) plans to invest NIS 62 million in construction of an industrial building in Caesarea.

The 34,000-sq.m., one-storey building will contain 1,500 sq.m of office space and the rest industrial space and be constructed on an 87-dunam plot.

Gav Yam has leased the plot from Caesarea Development Company.

Solel Boneh was awarded the contract to build the building. Six companies participated in Gav Yam's tender. The company expects to complete construction in 15 months.

Gazit Buildings, which is constructing the Nof Galim development in Netanya, is offering for sale a six-room apartment for the same price as a five-room one.

A six-room, 160-sq.m. apartment is available for $212,000. The company said the scheme will continue until the end of January.

The 10 largest construction companies sold 3.2% more apartments in December (418) than the previous month (405).

The companies said they expected higher sales in December as a result of companies implementation of aggressive marketing campaigns in Modi'in.

But the contractors said sales in Modi'in were disappointing in December, reflecting potential buyers' preference to wait until prices drop.

Several months ago, the Housing Ministry predicted prices in Modi'in will fall later in the year.

Baumel Moshe and Feldman N. have won Israel Land Authority's tender to construct 80 apartments on a seven-dunam plot in south Haifa.

The companies plan to construct two, three-story buildings which will each contain 40, three and four room apartments.

A. Dori has started construction of 308 housing units in the Moshovot neighborhood in Petah Tikva.

The company expects sales from the development to reach $63m., including VAT. The development is situated on 64 dunam that the company purchased from the Issacson family for $10m. in 1993.

The company plans to construct 11 buildings of four and seven floors. The development will include three, four-and-a-half room apartments and penthouses.

A three-room, 107 sq.m., apartment will be sold for about $155,000, while a three-and-a-half room apartment will be sold for $163,000.

A four-room apartment will be sold for $184,000, and a four-and-a-half room apartment will be sold for $199,000.

A three-room, 122 sq.m. penthouse, in addition to a 45 sq.m. balcony, will be sold for $215,000, while a five-and-a-half room, 159 sq.m. penthouse and 100 sq.m. balcony will be sold for $285,000.

Salamon construction company has started building 109 housing units in the Gan Ha'vradim district in Ashkelon. The company expects sales from the development to reach $10.5m.

The company purchased the plot for $5m. Salamon plans to construct nine, three-storey buildings.

So far, Salamon has sold 13 apartments. The company is selling three-room, 88 sq.m., apartments for $88,000, and four room apartments for $104,000 - 4115,000. A five-room, 125 sq.m. apartment will be sold for $124,000, while a five-room penthouse will be sold for about $150,000.

Blue-Moon ice cream chain has opened its twelfth branch in Carmalit, in Haifa. The chain has rented 60 sq.m. from Carmalit company for 9% of its sales turnover.

Blue Moon plans to invest $120,000 in designing the branch.

Disney's Eisner has 'lean' year

BURBANK, California (Reuter) – Walt Disney Co. Chairman Michael Eisner, who earned more than $200 million in salary and stock options in 1993, had to make do with much less last year.

In fiscal 1994, Eisner earned just $8m. in cash compensation, including his $750,000 base salary and a $7.3m. bonus, the Burbank-based entertainment giant reported in its proxy statement.

Eisner also was awarded 60,618 shares of restricted Disney stock valued at $2.6m. as part of his bonus in the fiscal year ended September 30, the company said.

The 52-year-old Eisner is paid a bonus in cash and stock equal to two percent of the amount by which Disney's net income exceeds a return on stockholder's equity of 11%.

In fiscal 1993, Eisner earned no bonus – the only year in his 10 years at the helm of Disney when he failed to command a bonus – but he cashed in stock options valued at $202.3m. in December 1992, a few months after the start of the 1993 fiscal year.

Eisner owns 2.9 million Disney shares, worth $133m. at current levels, and has shared voting power for another 98,945 shares.

Gold, silver closes sharply lower

COMMODITIES ROUNDUP

COMEX gold and silver closed the first week of 1995 sharply lower, as fund selling battered the precious metals market, traders said.

Technical factors were largely responsible for this downward move, although rising US interest rates, as well as a firmer dollar, also weighed on sentiment.

February gold closed down $4.40 at $372.20 an ounce and March silver lost 8.0 cents, settling at $4.652 an ounce.

Comex copper ended broadly higher in relatively light trading on Friday, with March futures up 1.50 cents to close at 136.30 cents a pound.

Traders said the market is fundamentally and technically strong, allowing most players to keep holding their long positions.

CBOT corn futures closed higher, with March futures up one at $2.31-3/4. Prices were boosted by slow farmer selling, active exports and a firm cash basis market.

Dry weather in South Africa caused the US agricultural attache to lower his estimate of the corn crop, which also nudged prices up.

CBOT wheat closed lower, with March down 1-3/4 at $3.94-1/2. Traders said a sharp dip in wheat cash basis markets and a spate of bear spreading pressured this commodity to a lower close.

Slow farmer selling and a firm cash basis boosted soybean prices on Friday, but persistent talks of good weather in South America and a fall in soyoil prices prevented a rally in this market.

January soybean prices closed up 1/4 at $5.49.

NYCE cotton futures ended lower on Friday, with most of the activity in spreads and switches (rolling long positions from March to July), traders said. March cotton settled 0.25 cents weaker at 88.58 cents a pound in choppy trading.

CSCE world sugar ended firmer across the board, with active March futures closing up 0.13 cent at 15.74 cents a pound.

Dealers said the modest afternoon rally on Friday was led by trade short-coverings and also noted that March-May switches were actively traded.

Nervousness about export retention in South America and hints of interest from roasters triggered a rise in CSCE Arabica coffee prices, led mostly by trade short-coverings, traders said.

Active March gained 2.40 cents to close at 174.95 cents per pound.

After failing to maintain gains posted in a brief midday rally, CSCE cocoa prices ended barely firmer on Friday, with March futures up $1 at $1,341 a pound.

Courtesy of Michael Zwebner, CommStock Trading

Apple up sharply on takeover talk

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuter) – Apple Computer Inc. stock jumped Friday on a magazine report that three companies were seeking to divide and take over the company that virtually invented the personal computer.

Software company Oracle Corp., European consumer products leader Philips Electronics NV and Japanese electronics giant Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. Ltd were named as the suitors in the January 16 issue of *InformationWeek*.

Apple stock closed $3.125 higher at $42 on the Nasdaq market, where it was the most active issue with more than 9.6 million shares trading. The stock is now just under a 52-week high of $43.75.

At least one of the companies, Philips, flatly denied any involvement.

"How can I put it? It's nonsense, as far as Philips is concerned," a spokesman for the Dutch electronics giant said in Amsterdam.

Both Apple and Oracle declined to comment on the report, which Apple described as a "rumor."

The Cupertino, California-based company, which produced the first commercially available PC in the late 1970s, has been engaged in a desperate bid to restructure its business and build a larger market for the Macintosh and Power PC computers.

Apple has an alliance with International Business Machines Corp. and Motorola Inc. for the new PowerPC chip that challenges Intel Corp. and Microsoft Corp., whose software and hardware dominate the industry.

It has also licensed its Macintosh PC system to two companies in the hope that clones of the machines will build a greater market for the machine.

Wall Street is now wondering whether an outright sale of a stake might create a more formidable competitor to Intel and Microsoft.

The report, citing "sources close to the company," said Oracle would buy Apple's software business, including its Mac operating system and Taligent Corp. stake.

Philips and Matsushita would split its PC hardware business, with Matsushita taking the popular Apple Powerbook portable computer.

In a press release previewing the report, *InformationWeek* said "Oracle's strategy, according to knowledgeable sources, centers on how the company could use an investment in Apple to attack Microsoft Corp. at the low end of the market and IBM at the high end.

Analysts said the real value of Apple was the links between its hardware and software elements, so they questioned whether any buyer would want to sever those links with a break up of the company.

"The value Apple has had is the tight integration between hardware and software," which makes Macintosh systems easy to use, said Pieter Hartsook, a computer market researcher specializing in the Macintosh market. "Splitting them up would make Apple less valuable to new owners."

Oracle's name has come in the past regarding a takeover of Apple. The *Wall Street Journal* in October reported that Oracle Chief Executive Lawrence Ellison had contacted former junk bond king Michael Milken about how to buy Apple last April.

AT&T unveils interactive TV, phone products

LAS VEGAS (Reuter) – AT&T Corp joined the scramble by telecommunications, cable, entertainment and computer companies to deliver interactive television by introducing its own television-screen based consumer device.

The product, a set-top box and a remote control unit, is designed to offer individuals an easy way to manage their personal needs, including telephone answering, electronic banking and bill paying, topic-specific news items, sports scores, stock updates and other information.

It will also eventually offer electronic mail capabilities, including a unified e-mail address in the easy-to-remember form of one's telephone number, AT&T said.

AT&T, the nation's largest long-distance carrier, unveiled the products, the first of a series of "intelligent" devices for the home, on Thursday night at a press conference held on the eve of the four-day Consumer Electronics Show here.

Carl Ledbetter, president of AT&T Consumer Products division, said the product, called the AT&T Information Center, is the first device that allows information delivered over regular telephone lines to be displayed on the home television screen.

He said AT&T was in talks with several content providers and independent software providers.

But he declined to identify them. AT&T will also provide some of the services and content, he added.

So far, AT&T has named two partners: Zenith Electronics Corp. of Illinois, which is supplying the set-top box itself, and Shawmut National Corp.'s Shawmut Bank, which will provide electronic banking and bill-paying services for its customers in the Northeast of the United States.

The television device will cost $329 and will be available after March at AT&T's Phone Center stores and selected retail outlets in the Northeast of the US.

Later in the year it will be available in other areas of the US, AT&T said in a statement.

Ledbetter said AT&T will charge a monthly rate for the whole service but he would not discuss details. "This will be a consumer device. It won't be big," he said.

He also declined to say how much AT&T or its partners have invested in the product.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	%chg
FirstInt2	1104	-25.0
General	7308	-4.0
IndDevDD		
IndDevPD		
MerDC	181.00	
OHH	143512	-0.5
Trade	700	-1.0
TradeD	173.50	-1.4

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	322298	-2.0
Carmel	953	
CarmCt3	288	
DevMB	16012	
FirstMB	33629	-0.2
IndepMB	80474	-2.5
J IsbC	128.00	
JernBnk	298	-1.1
LeumiMBR	73804	
MerchantC	184.00	0.3
Mtchv	6086	-5.0
TefahotR	158081	

Financial Institutions

Name	Price	%chg
Shiton	7258	-8.0

Insurance

Name	Price	%chg
Ismafin1	982	
Ararat	1719	
Ayalon	988	-1.3
AyalonC	985	
Bitua	3865	
BituaC1	215	-0.5
Hadar1	1093	-1.0
Hadar2	1057	-1.7
HamishurC	2327	-2.0
Hamishuro	1282	-2.2
Menorah1	981	-1.5
Menorah5	2408	-2.0
Phoenix1	2541	
Phoenix5	2442	-1.0
Shirar	483	
Zion5	11201	-0.2

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
Hashoka	332	0.6
Hashkr	932	2.0
Ikram	7736	-0.7
IkramW1	1225.00	
IndWtrC1	130.00	
IndWtrC2	128.50	-0.4
IkramWrnt	3914	-0.5
Clal31	10047	-10.0
Clal Group	10047	
ClalCmpC	161.00	-0.9
CorSearch	1220	
GoOp	1337	-1.0
Gvahot	1784	-0.5
GvahotR	1984	-0.5
DCL	837	
DCLW	96.50	
Elbit	1355.00	
Fishman	156.50	
GenHedar	244	-0.8
GenHedC	203	
GilatG2	189.50	
GrahamC1	103.50	
GrahmW2	146.00	
HDMC1	128.00	-0.4
HDMW1	82.50	
Hdim	385	2.5
Isramcr1	3222	-0.2
Isramcr5	3065	-0.6
Lhav	1159	-2.0
Mefi	1081	
Mediinch	445	0.7
MedtechW	882	4.5
MLLC1	184.00	-0.6
Repto	1827	-2.0
Retrof	944.00	-1.0
RetrofC1	112.00	
Teem	2888	-0.5
TeemC1	186.00	
Telrov	1052	-0.5
Topline	312	-0.5
YaakC1	113.00	-0.9
Yaana	1648	2.0
Yaakt	1045	
Yona	438	-0.9

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
ashoreshr	172.00	9.2
electwcp	1792	-2.6
Inco	3551	
ioimg	467	-0.4
willbor	174.00	
yellobeel	397	0.1
AdwestC	114.00	
Adocom	36.50	
AdocomC2	13.00	
Allwest	1097	-10.0
Alony	253	-4.9
AlonHtYL	10382	-1.2
Angel	10500	
Argaman	495	2.2
ArtyC1	72.50	-2.7
Ashply	1407	3.0
Ashplyc1	165.50	-0.9
Ashtrom	397	
Atzmon	389	
AtzmonW1	117.50	
Autwrth	418	-6.3
Bellman	574	-5.0
BoutiqC1	191.50	-0.3
CablesC3	128.50	
CablesW3	349	-0.4
Camtec	722	-0.5
Carpet	1488	
Casino	1315	
Ceram	821	-5.9
CleBioC	348	
CleBio1	1912	-1.0
Clinl Ctr	171.00	-1.2
Cyclone1	9035	-5.5
Cyclone3	5482	-7.5
CyclonCt1	100.00	
CyclonCt2	103.00	0.5
Delrond	177.00	
DelronW2	428	-18.7
Delsm1	2431	-2.3
Delsmlcn	337	-2.3
Degem1	1247	-1.0
Delta 1	1807	
Delta3	1574	
DubekB	9933	-1.2
DubekR	9898	-2.0
EagleC		
EagleC2	45.00	
EagleW3	28.50	
Eagle1	92.00	
Elgar	282	-3.0
ElgarC2	139.00	
ElronTec	64.50	
ElronW1	7073	0.3
Elrond	4781	
Elronus	734	
Elron 0.6	7637	-2.0
ElronC4	2365	
ElteC	285	0.4
EshdRtec	344	0.9
Evrot	175.00	
Fenies5	1470	
Fer10.1	1681	
FeuchtW1	8277	
FeuchtW5	5714	-0.5
Five J	305	-10.0
FrutexC2	308	-0.6
FrutexC3	180.00	
GibonC1	93.00	-1.8
GibonSub	455	
GibonW2	980	-3.5
Gidan	880	-0.7
Hanasi1	985	
Hashov1	280	
Hashov5	135.00	
Hist	1.34	-0.4
Holt	134.00	
IsrCan1	2788	-0.5
isr-cm	761	-2.1
Kashrawy1	210	-1.4
Kedem	4920	-0.3
KedemC2	174.50	
Kenar	521	
KlilnC1	197.00	0.4
Kitan	2100	
KRS	2081	1.5
Liyad	2926	-8.0
Lodzia1	1304	0.5
Lodzia4	1240	
LohamNet	173.50	5.2
MacPell	233	-9.0
Magem	458	-0.9
Mechkeit	1371	
Mashov5	1139	
Mid Eden	1133	2.2
Modiyal	1003	-0.3
Monbaz1	391	-9.8
Monpaz5	2278	-1.3
NegCeram	385	-5.3
NeharitI	937	-3.5
NeharitN5	702	-10.0
Nevtzt	1218	0.5
Nikol	1210	-7.0
NMC	451	
Ofa	845	
Ophir	231	-2.9
Orbit1	354	-0.6
Orlite	393	-1.3
PalaceW2	1203	-5.0
Pargod	1952	
PerCham	477	-4.2
Plrs	715	-1.2
PolgatA	341	-3.9
PolgatC1	177.00	
Polygon	573	
PolygonC	150.00	0.3
PCB	885	-2.0
Rishpax	366	-1.6
RishpaxW	83.00	
Sanitot1	389	-2.0
Sanot	1783	-2.0
Sano5	1161	-0.5
Satan	2598	
Shemen	9488	
Shotrix	358	-8.0
Skod	227	
Sunkost	3075	-5.2
Tad	39999	
Tadiran	894	-2.0
Tambora	887	-4.0
Tefen	1040	
TeraC	433	
Tiv	973	
Tobin1	440	-0.9
Toppaz	173.50	
TATC1	182.00	1.1
TAT1	529	
Unibet1	2138	-2.5
Unibet5	1998	2.4
Vicgart	859	
Vulcan	284	
VulcanC	165.00	0.6
Wardinon	20697	-0.3
WardinW3	9410	3.2
YitongC2	355	
Zahavi	2252	-0.4
Zilka1	1996	
ZilkaS	1918	
Zilkin1	4130	
Zim5	3981	-0.3
ZionCoin1	993	-1.0
Zohavind	417	

Property, Building & Agriculture

Name	Price	%chg
jerusbnk	135.00	
Ilrest	288	-1.0
IsrSal	369	
wellson	73997	-0.5
yulang	184.00	-0.5
Alony	1448	
AlonWrtL	17.50	-30.0
Amazon	196.50	
Amazon Ct	166.50	
Arlandsn1	1288	2.0
Arsta	1229	
AstaDC4	146.50	-2.0
AstaW2	585	-5.0
Asuza	1237	-1.3
AsuzaC1	261	0.4
AzorpC1	298	
AzorpPrp	251	-0.2
Berano1	933	-1.5
Bayadas	27194	-1.0
BayadsCt	28238	-0.5
BenYehW	1686	
BenYehW1	490	
BenYhwC	78.00	-0.6
BldgRes	4157	
DanaInv	1369	-0.5
DanKrav	1431	-7.5
DanKravC	180.00	-2.1
Darad1	204	
Dorotex	4214	-0.3
DunkelOw	299	-0.4
Engel	364	
GoldHous	331	-1.5
GldHousC	196.50	
Ispro	3000	-0.3
Isrotex	1744	-1.0
IsrotexC	205	
IsrtexC1	186.00	
Isrtex1.5	4561	
Israel	5027	
ICP5	20819	
Jaysbur1	185.00	
Jordan	418	2.9
LazarCt1	97.00	
Lazarus	179.00	-3.2
Lilahb5	169.50	-2.3
Luzon	3219	
MalBuzC2	119.00	
MalBuz7	789	-5.0
MarLasC2	89.50	1.1
MarLasW5	174.50	-2.1
Migdal	7350	
Millenwl	302	
MTM	2926	-1.5
NeotAviv	1779	-2.0
PtOr	8416	-1.2
RedSea	695	
Rogovin1L	1156	
Rogovin5	1074	
Rotex	591	0.2
Sacom	308	
Shaked	391	-3.0
Tashtiz	641	

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
Ilya	1004	-1.5
Advest	768	-0.3
Advest2	722	-2.0
AdvorO	408	-8.5
Arigo	115457	-3.0
Arad	5417	-0.3
Azr aCt	176.50	-1.1
Clal93	1184	
Clal50	7150	-2.5
DanSecC	208	
Danbor1	2295	2.0
Elron	2921	-0.5
Esvah	180.50	-10.1
ExporC4	213	-4.5
Hilin	397	
HilinW4	205	-14.9
Hom5	6993	-1.2
Ikrah	1282	
IDLC5	184.00	
JosC1	188.50	-2.9
JosC1A	186.50	-5.1
Karoln1	315	-3.5
Klal	344	-8.0
Magn01	1892	-0.3
Magn5	1721	
Mdatz	488	-5.8
OzdC1	128.00	-3.1
OzdW1	3507	-5.0
Ofer	9648	
OferA1	1111	-3.2
Plrs1	375	-8.3
Plrs4	275	-10.1
SaharDev	3859	
Saturia	2107	-1.3
SecuritiG	122.50	
SecuritiW	544	-9.9
SAPANHASP	947	
TaspC	247	0.4
TaurC1	182.50	
TaurShrs	93.00	-0.5
Unico	6284	

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
MGN1	6127	-0.2

PARALLEL LIST Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
afrikstl	605	-1.0
arkia	928	-1.5
Elbit	267	-2.2
Elscint	156.00	-0.8
isrtourcorp	342	
mivtahsht	1008	
Mivtsyo	2378	-0.3
rodavshi	375	
Shir	518	1.0
AtlasW1	513	-5.2
Comtec	1018	
Delt1	2.70	-3.8
Dorot	1165	
Dota	172	
Elbtech	407	-0.5
Greenfog	582	-5.0
ILDCHOT	397	-5.0
Kinet	224	
Kopel	212	-5.8
KopelCt1	161.50	-5.0
MDFK	397	-1.5
Nirsot	494	-3.9
Regency Ho	137.00	-3.5
TransLit	1313	

Property, Building

Name	Price	%chg
a.dorl	113.00	
atenbetz	94.00	
granitor	140.50	
pandor	698	
Adler	294	
Bec--Tom1	1772	
Caesarn1	3506	-8.3
Dankl	708	
Gindi	900	8.2
GindiW1	399	8.0
GindCt	277	
Lazarich	128.50	
Lusatn1	788	-1.0
Matheon	849	
Oz	193.00	-2.0
Rassco	2046	-2.0
Scandia	183.00	
ScandiaC	166.00	0.5
UnicornG1	150.50	4.9
Unicorn1	139.50	
Unicorn5	89.50	
UnicrnW3	51.00	2.4

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
aboodago	97.50	4.8
asdodago	326	-2.1
Ipcon	1447	2.0
isrelechtr	734	-10.0
zivastel	1276	-2.2
Adumim1	234	1.3
Benuch1	2138	-5.0
Benuch5	744	-0.8
Brosh1	310	-1.3
Dedar	1681	-5.0
Elron	199.00	-2.0
Etol	911	1.8
Klog1	888	-1.0
Lahtsm1	2926	
ManC1	135.00	
Mani	180.00	-1.9
MLI	1174	
Mirom	31504	
MezaG1	195.00	-1.5
Orotelo	751	2.0
Osouk	182.00	-8.9
OsoukC	89.00	0.6
OsdePrtz	1019	-3.2
Pelleh1	564	-5.3
Shiadot	127.00	2.0
Tasa	689	-0.4

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
Aamani	3041	-3.0
Ador	845	
aurelihoo	88.50	-2.1
Atlas	1358	
Binyan	61991	-10.0
Hasoan	1542	-1.0
Jilmgn	1345.00	
Optibis	195.50	0.5
Regamt1	328	
Yasium	88.00	-3.4

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
DelekEn1	2241	
Naphtha	34.70	

Two-sided trading

Name	AFTERNOON Price	% Change	Volume Shares	MORNING Price	% Change	Volume Shares
buildpr	496	-2.0		496	-2.0	6000
nacional	1007	-0.5	2600	1009	-0.3	6910
Ablac	20.6	-4.2	210000	20.6	-4.2	202196
Ackadin	289	-1.7	15000	291	-1.0	7700
Afris O	307298	-1.5	205	309638	-0.8	138
Ahler	296802	-2.0	195	294530	-2.8	15
Agan	4146	-1.0	8750	4198	0.2	7890
Agis	1791	-1.5	18000	1795	-1.3	7388
Aryt	427	-4.5	14000	429	-4.0	10307
Avner	6.3			6.3		328292
Azorim	3982	-1.5	10900	3735		9328
ALPM	14010		100	14010		793
Bezeq	518	-1.0	248000	524		37788
Bouto	183.5	-6.5		183.5	-6.5	17483
Cables	1528		25000	1532	0.3	10050
Clal Ele	23620	-0.2	4485	23679		668
Clal Tra	829			829		10733
Clal 10	7287	-1.2	14400	7342	-0.5	2221
Clalins	1081	-1.2	9000	1084	-1.0	8000
Clalstr 5	1835			1835		10900
Clinds	1685	-1.5	46800	1711		20080
CohenDev	568			568		2058
Danber 5	1820	-1.2		1820	-1.2	3686
Dead Sea	742	-2.0	86000	748	-1.1	14375
Delek	8305	-0.2	6480	8328		1958
Discinv	19324	-1.0	3980	19462	-0.5	951
Elbit	19485	-1.7	4320	19812		1892
Elco	8939	-0.2	4320	8991		3038
Elite 5	1491	-1.7	8000	1491	-1.8	10186
Elron	9188		1260	9211	0.3	3304
Evergr n	2503	1.0	19500	2478		3605
Export	1288	-3.2		1288	-3.2	3763
Fibi	40507	-1.5	580	40713	-1.0	333
Formula	993			993		8778
Fristn1	34700	-1.5	400	34700	-1.5	294
Fristn5	32462	-2.0		32462	-2.0	254
Frutarom	1011	-0.7	4500	1011	-0.8	9278
Gahelet	5271	-3.0	6100	5271	-3.0	600
Granit	470	0.2	30000	470	0.2	28437
Hapoalim	420	-1.0	276500	424		67413
Hexalin	7231		4800	7267	0.5	5051
Ind-Bld	405	-0.7	84000	408		48067
IndDevBK	26512		250	26512		173
Isramco	6.4	-4.2	9020000	6.6	-1.5	6785192
IsrCorp1	22568	-1.0	4340	22786		1724
IsrCorp5	21751			21751		1755
IsChem	253	-2.0	678000	255	-1.2	218599
IDB	949	-2.0	135000	958	-1.0	15780
IDBDev	4913	-1.0	34200	4963		6416
ILDC	947	-0.2	4500	949		33021
JEC	1005	-0.2	9000	1011	0.3	29278
JOEL	1220		12000	1220		100412
Kardan5	299	-2.2	27000	298	-2.3	28113
Klein	1018		1500	1018		9794
Koor	22571		13580	22571		3356
Leumi	327	-2.2	126000	330	-1.5	31295
Litshkz1	278	0.5	18000	277		22241
Makhteh	1554	-2.0	50000	1562	-1.5	10000
MaBtu5	771	-1.5	21600	773	-1.3	7544
Maman	759	-1.7	12000	748	-3.2	2103
MenT	2154		1400	2154		8441
Mashov	257	1.2		257	1.2	13199
Mehadrin	14419	-1.0		14419	-1.0	384
MeirEzra	1910	-0.5	3000	1901	-1.0	1479
Mishkan	27216			27216		357
Mivtah	1083	-1.2	1200	1083	-1.2	2611
Multilock	1098		1500	1098		10012
MGNS	4943	-1.5		4943	-1.5	391
MLL1	385	-3.5		385	-3.5	4040
NaftoRDS	6.1			6.1		
Ocil	7822	-2.7	180	7992	-2.0	674
Ormat	696	-1.5	69000	701	-1.3	22324
Osem	1840	-2.5	8000	1887		1586
PezolEx	80.0	-5.7		80.0	-5.9	51974
Packer	9426	-5.2		9426	-5.2	912
Paricias	2016	-0.7		2016	-0.7	2144
Parchem	1405		6000	1405		15652
Piryon	9845	-4.0	450	9845	-4.0	514
PolgatB	397			397		17500
Poseidon	66.5	-3.2		66.5	-2.9	48699
Rogostn	1761			1761		3057
SelaPump	143.0	-1.2	80000	140.5	-3.1	54300
SuperSB	4887	-0.7	7200	4924		2857
Telshot8	166304	-1.5		166304	-1.5	78
Tempo1	1350	-1.2	1200	1353	-1.0	8187
Teva	68854	-0.7	2640	68854	-0.7	1092
Tibnyesl	353	-0.2		353	-0.8	5897
TATS	301	-0.7	9000	301	-0.7	42813
Urdan 0.	358	-3.2	12000	358	-3.2	10000
Yaad	591			591		850
Yhong	797		28000	801	0.5	16245

Another slow market day leads to talk of crisis

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO

Two-Sided Index	Maof Index	Karam Index
166.43 -1.14%	168.50 -1.18%	147.57 -1.10%

THE day's trading was a virtual copy of what occurred during the previous week: three indexes with practically identical changes of -1.1% to -1.2% and an abysmal turnover of NIS 68 million.

There is an open talk of a crisis. Most traders do not understand what is occurring, particularly since they have not experienced previous

Mac J'lem surprises Eilat

JOEL GORDIN

MACCABI Jerusalem, the surprise of this year's National Basketball League, last night made another two-point stride towards the center of the standings with a 89-86 home win over Hapoel Eilat.

Eilat had the better of the first half and led throughout by an average of six points (at the halftime buzzer by 46-42), helped by the spirited play of Willie Sims and Ari Rosenberg's talent for hitting 3-pointers.

Jerusalem's Dror Cohen and playmaker Gilad Simhoni took Jerusalem ahead after halftime, both of them making up for a lackluster performance by the team's two Americans, Shawn *Green and Joe Dawson.*

Eilat's defense, as usual, let them down badly and they slipped to 87-75 until a few minutes from the end, when they brought up their heavy artillery. Sims smashed in two 3-pointers, followed by another from Rosenberg (his seventh) bringing the score to 87-84.

Eilat then fouled Dawson who hit two from the free throw line to up the score to 89-84. In the closing seconds. Sims missed a wild shot for three points and Brian Rowsom's two points from the free throw line (89-86) were too little, too late.

For Jerusalem, Cohen scored 22, Green 16, Dawson and Jerry Simon 13 each. For Eilat, Rosenberg hit 23, Sims 19, Andrew Kennedy 16 and Rowsom 14.

Maccabi Tel Aviv 104, Hapoel Gvat 89

Gvat, which has an enviable record for giving Maccabi a close game in the valley, held the champions to a tight encounter until halftime with Maccabi nursing a one-point lead at 44-43.

After the break, Maccabi tightened its defense, with Nadav Henefeld neutralizing Rodney Munro and Norris Coleman holding Derrick Gervin. Without their two Americans in the game, Gvat fell further and further back until they petered out.

Maccabi's best scorer was Doron Jamchee with 32 (including four 3-pointers). Coleman sank 22, Radisav Curcic 18 and Guy Goodes 18. For Gvat, Munro hit 24, Gervin 21 and Gil Sela (13) tried hard all the way.

Hapoel Jerusalem 93, Hapoel Haifa 76

Host Haifa played without its foreign players: Michael Kennedy is hurt and Dennis Williams has still not returned from the US. Jerusalem was without the injured Papi Turgeman, but they were blessed with great performances by Radenko Dovrosh (23 points), John Dalzell (20) and Billy Thompson (19).

For the home team, Lazy Gordon tried to win the match alone and his individualism did more harm than good. Nevertheless, he was top scorer (24), followed by Shimon Amsalem (19) and plucky Shayne Cohen (17).

Jerusalem led 50-36 at half-time.

Mac R Gan 106, Hap Givatayim 93

In a cliff-hanger at Winter Stadium, Ramat Gan knocked the last nail in the coffin which will, barring miracles, carry Givatayim down to the second division.

Ramat Gan, led by their high-scoring foreign pair, Lamont Strothers and John Eubanks, dominated the first half (55-44). In a last-ditch effort to stave off the impending relegation, Givatayim stormed into the second half with a 7-0 start and later turned over the score to take a 68-67 lead.

The see-saw battle continued until the end when Givatayim lost its head and first Dudi Adler and then Adrian Branch gave away technical fouls. Branch was, in fact, ordered off the court close to the final buzzer.

In the fifth game last night, Maccabi Rishon Lezion thrashed Betar Ramat Gan 123-56.

On Saturday night, Bnei Herzliya beat Hapoel Tel Aviv 128-88. Holon hosts Hapoel Galil Elyon tonight in a game to be shown live on Cable TV at 8:30 pm.

National Basketball League

	W	L	Pts.
1. Maccabi Tel Aviv	15	1	31
2. Maccabi Rishon	13	3	29
3. Hapoel Eilat	10	6	26
Hapoel Jerusalem	10	6	26
5. Hapoel Galil Elyon	10	5	25
Bnei Herzliya	9	7	25
7. Hapoel Holon	9	6	24
Hapoel Tel Aviv	9	6	24
Maccabi Jerusalem	8	8	24
10. Maccabi Ramat Gan	6	10	22
11. Hapoel Gvat	5	10	20
Hapoel Haifa	4	12	20
13. Hapoel Givatayim	2	14	18
14. Betar Ramat Gan	0	16	16

Cowboys, 49ers head for showdown



PAY DIRT – 49ers' William Floyd lunges into the end zone to complete a 4-yard TD run. Floyd scored three times in San Francisco's lopsided win. (Reuter)

IRVING, TX (AP) – Troy Aikman completed 23 of 30 passes for a club playoff record 337 yards and two touchdowns as the Dallas Cowboys remained on course toward their third straight Super Bowl with a 35-9 NFL playoff victory over the Green Bay Packers last night.

Despite losing All-Pro running back Emmitt Smith to a hamstring injury for most of the game, the Cowboys gave rookie coach Barry Switzer his first triumph in the NFL playoffs.

Smith, who scored the Cowboys' first touchdown, re-injured his left hamstring late in the first quarter and did not return. His status for next Sunday's championship game was uncertain.

The Cowboys, 12-4 in the regular season, will play San Francisco next Sunday in Candlestick Park. The 49ers eliminated the Chicago Bears 44-15 in the other NFC divisional playoff game on Saturday.

Aikman, 7-0 in playoff games he has started, had only one touchdown pass in his last five games. But he was on target yesterday, completing a 94-yard TD pass to Alvin Harper to give Dallas a 14-3 lead with 3:40 left in the first quarter.

Tight end Jay Novacek caught 11 passes for 104 yards, Michael Irvin had six catches for 111 yards and Harper had two catches for 108 yards. It marked the first time since 1982 that three receivers topped 100 yards in the playoffs.

Aikman was 16 of 21 for 272 yards in the first half as the well-rested Cowboys took a 28-9 lead over the Packers to put the game away early.

49ers 44, Bears 15

In Saturday's late game, host San Francisco overwhelmed Chicago and headed for their fourth NFC championship game in five years.

Even though Chicago scored first, the outcome was never in doubt.

After spotting the Bears a 3-0 lead, the 49ers reeled off 30 straight points in the first half to put the game away, and Chicago's improbable playoff run came to an end on Candlestick Park's soggy, shredded turf.

49ers quarterback Steve Young threw for 143 yards and a touchdown, completing 16-of-22 passes. He also ran five times for 32 yards, including a touchdown that set off a brawl. William Floyd had scoring runs of 1, 2 and 4 yards.

San Francisco took advantage of two interceptions against Steve Walsh and a botched fake punt during their scoring burst. The 49ers made it 37-3 in the third quarter and Young and most of the other regulars were lifted with 5:48 left in the period.

Young and wide receiver Jerry Rice, along with Deion Sanders, Gary Plummer, Norton, and other defensive newcomers, had nothing left to do but prowl the sidelines and congratulate one another and await their next challenge.

Chicago, 0-3 in its playoff history against the 49ers, proved to be no match despite forcing a turnover on San Francisco's first series. Brent Jones fumbled after catching a pass and Alonzo Spellman recovered at San Francisco's 36, but Chicago had to settle for Kevin Butler's 36-yard field goal.

From there, it was all San Francisco.

Down 23-3 and struggling to move the ball, the Bears tried a fake punt with 2:15 left in the half. The ball was snapped to the upback, Tony Carter but he dropped it as he began to run and Dedrick Dodge swooped in to stop him.

The 49ers took over at the Chicago 32, and Young capped the drive with a 6-yard scramble for the touchdown, putting San Francisco ahead 30-3 at the half.

Young was hit late by defensive back Shaun Gayle after he crossed the goal line, prompting a end-zone brawl that included an in-your-face spike by Young and a shoving match between Gayle and Rice.

"I just felt it wasn't justified for him to take a shot at our quarterback," Rice said. "Steve Young is the key to our success. We can't let anything happen to him. That's the bottom line."

NFL DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7
Pittsburgh 29, Cleveland 9
San Francisco 44, Bears 15
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8
Dallas 35, Green Bay 9 (Sports Channel broadcast at 7:30 am and 4 pm today)
Miami at San Diego (after press deadline)

NHL players nix owners' "final offer"

TORONTO (Reuter) – Chances of the National Hockey League season being canceled this year were heightened yesterday when the NHL Players' Association rejected the owners' "final" offer.

The players rejected the offer after a conference phone call between the NHLPA and player representatives of the 26 NHL teams, who have been locked out since October 1, *The Canadian Press* reported.

It does not necessarily mean the end of the season since NHLPA executive director Bob Goodenow and NHL commissioner Gary Bettman have agreed to meet again although the time and the site were not disclosed, the Canadian news agency reported.

On Saturday the owners offered a six-year deal to the players that called for free agency at age 32, a rookie salary cap with 20-year-olds being drafted, and an arbitration process that allows the clubs to walk away from hearings they lose.

The players have asked for free agency at age 30, with the present drafting age of 18 though with a less restrictive salary cap and a stiffer arbitration process.

The owners rejected the players' offer 20-6 in a board of governors meeting on Saturday and voted 19-7 to put forward their "final offer."

SCOREBOARD

GOLF – Reigning US Open champion Ernie Els won his first home tournament in two years when he ran away with the South African Bell's Cup tournament by five shots at Fancourt Estate Golf Club yesterday.

Barkley paces Suns

DENVER (Reuter) – Charles Barkley scored 22 points and Danny Manning had six of his 20 in an 18-7 fourth-quarter run as the streaking Phoenix Suns defeated the Denver Nuggets, 109-100 on Saturday.

Rookie Wesley Person added 15 points for Phoenix, which improved to a Western Conference-best 24-7.

The Suns have won 12 of their last 14 games.

Bryant Stith scored 18 points and Reggie Williams had 17 for the Nuggets, who have lost nine of their last 14 games.

Hornets 106, Celtics 98

Alonzo Mourning scored 33 points and grabbed 13 rebounds and Larry Johnson scored six of his 23 points during a key 10-2 fourth-quarter run, leading the streaking Charlotte Hornets to a come-from-behind home win.

Muggsy Bogues chipped in with 20 points for the Hornets.

Dominique Wilkins scored 24 points and Pervis Ellison had 20 points and 12 rebounds for the Celtics, who lost their sixth of eight games.

The Hornets' 200th franchise win put them seven games above .500 (19-12) for the first time in team history.

Cavaliers 92, Bulls 78

Terrell Brandon, starting in place of the injured Mark Price, scored a career-high 24 points to lead Cleveland Cavaliers to a homecourt victory.

Price, the Cavaliers' leading scorer, missed the game with a sprained right foot.

Bobby Phills scored 21 points and John Williams added 19 for the Cavs, who won for the 12th time in their last 14 games.

The Bulls jumped out to a 15-9 lead before Cleveland ran off 10 straight points to take the lead for good.

Chicago lost its second straight after winning five of its previous six games. The Bulls were led by guard BJ Armstrong's 17 points. Toni Kukoc scored 16 and Scottie Pippen 15 for the Bulls, who had scored a franchise-low 63 points in their previous meeting with Cleveland, a 77-63 loss in Chicago on December 19.

Hawks 102, Nets 85

Ken Norman scored 22 points and Tyrone Corbin had six of his 16 during a 14-2 fourth-quarter run as Atlanta won at home.

Atlanta held a 68-65 advantage with 10:38 left in the fourth before the game-breaking run.

The Nets, who have lost seven of their last eight games, were led by Derrick Coleman's 16 points and 11 rebounds. They shot a miserable 36 per cent from the field.

Jazz 111, 76ers 90

Jeff Hornacek scored 21 points, Karl Malone had 20 and Antoine Carr added 19 for host Utah.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Utah	21	10	.677	–
Houston	20	10	.667	.5
San Antonio	18	10	.643	1.5
Denver	15	15	.500	5.5
Dallas	14	14	.500	6.5
Minnesota	6	23	.207	14

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Phoenix	24	7	.774	–
Seattle	21	9	.700	2.5
LA Lakers	19	9	.679	3.5
Sacramento	17	13	.567	6.5
Portland	16	14	.533	7.5
Golden State	10	19	.345	13
LA Clippers	5	26	.161	19

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Orlando	25	6	.806	–
New York	17	12	.586	7
Boston	12	19	.387	13
New Jersey	13	22	.371	14
Miami	10	20	.333	14.5
Philadelphia	10	21	.323	15
Washington	7	23	.233	17.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	21	10	.677	–
Indiana	19	11	.633	1.5
Charlotte	19	12	.613	2
Chicago	16	15	.516	5
Atlanta	14	19	.424	8
Milwaukee	10	20	.333	10.5
Detroit	9	19	.321	10.5

SATURDAY'S RESULTS: Portland 114, Washington 105; Charlotte 106, Boston 98; Atlanta 102, New Jersey 85; Cleveland 92, Chicago 78; Indiana 88, Houston 83; Phoenix 109, Denver 100; Utah 111, Philadelphia 90; San Antonio 103, LA Clippers 88; Sacramento 96, Miami 95.

STRIKE BRIEFS

Japanese players getting offers

Just as baseball players from the big leagues are signing record contracts to come to Japan, American teams are trying to get Japanese stars to go the other direction.

The Japanese baseball commissioner's office confirmed that the San Francisco Giants had asked whether Tokyo Yomiuri Giants ace Masumi Kuwata was available.

He is not, the league office said, noting that he must play two more seasons in Japan before becoming eligible for free agency.

The Labor Department last month certified the players' strike. Because of that, no baseball player can obtain a work visa to enter the US unless he was on a a 40-man roster last August 11, the day before the strike began.

Minnesota Twins slugger Shane Mack on Wednesday signed a Japan record two-year $8.1 million deal to play for Kuwata's team.

Also, Julio Franco of the Chicago White Sox signed with the Chiba Lotte Marines for $3.5m.

Clemens wants Olympic spot

Boston Red Sox All-Star pitcher Roger Clemens wants to play for the US Olympic team. Clemens said the uncertainty of his future has him eyeing amateur competition, although Olympic rules bar professional baseball players.

"I don't know how it's going to work out," Clemens said. "But if ... that means giving up some contract, if I have to give up the money, I'll be glad to do that.

Clemens criticized fellow player Greg Swindell, who said that he might cross the Players Association picket line because of financial pressures such as alimony payments and a newborn child.

"He's not the only player that's in financial trouble or has gone through a family or two, or has kids from other marriages. If anyone should know the system, it should be Swindell because, he hasn't done a whole lot in this game. ... He's pulling in a nice paycheck [$4.2m] for himself for not ever winning 20 games."

Australia maintains unbeaten Series mark

BRISBANE (AP) – Mark Waugh and David Boon steered Australia to a 34-run victory over the second-string Australia A team yesterday in a World Series limited-overs cricket match at the Gabba Ground.

Australia maintained its unbeaten record in the four-team tournament and is certain of a place in the final.

Waugh scored 92 from 103 balls in an assured innings, while Boon was unbeaten on 86 from 98 balls as Australia made 252 for five.

Australia A looked like mounting a serious challenge, but lost its last five wickets for 52 runs in 10 overs to be all out for 218 with 13 balls left.

England or Australia A will face Australia in the best-of-three World Series final. England plays Australia in Melbourne tomorrow and Australia A then plays England in Sydney on Thursday in the last preliminary round game.

Waugh was named Man-of-the-Match for his batting, taking two fine catches and also running out Michael Bevan.

Newcastle, Blackburn draw

LONDON (Reuter) – Newcastle and league leaders Blackburn drew 1-1 yesterday in the only clash between two Premier League clubs in the third round of the FA Cup.

Chris Sutton put Blackburn ahead on the half-hour with his 18th goal of the season but Robert Lee struck a superb equalizer for Newcastle 10 minutes after the interval.

Premier League Crystal Palace ended a run of seven matches without a goal by overwhelming struggling Third Division Lincoln 5-1.

First Division Notts County led Premier League Manchester City for much of the day's third clash but finally had to settle for a 2-2 draw.

Newcastle went into the game with just one win in its 11 preceding matches, its slide coinciding with an excellent run by Blackburn which had lost only one of its last 13 games.

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RAMAT AVIV GIMMEL, 4 spacious, air conditioned, modern kitchen, elevator, parking. "Yael Realtor" (Maidan). ☎ 03-6426253.

WHERE TO STAY

TAL B&B IN TEL AVIV, bed and breakfast, short term rental in Tel Aviv area. Tel 03-322897, 03-5715172, Tel/Fax: 03-316575

SERVICES

LESSONS

HEBREW CENTER. Intensive, private lessons. All languages. Tutoring pupils. Psychometric preparations. Tel. 03-5227956; 02-388383.

HEALTH

MAKE YOUR body happy with a good Shiatzu. Phone Lofit ☎ 03-6040687.

SITS. VAC.

OFFICE STAFF

ENGLISH TYPIST, experienced in A-B 6.2 and/or Word, for interesting, temporary work. ☎ 03-7527813.

BI-LINGUAL SECRETARY, command of both languages + typing, for interesting, full-time job, immediately. ☎ 03-7514212.

HOUSEHOLD HELP

ARE YOU AN European/South African/Far East Girl?? We have Au Pair/Nanny/Housekeeping positions throughout the country, long-term, live-in/out. Very attractive wages. Veronica working hours Sun, Tue, Wed 9-2pm ☎ 03-6190423. All other hours ☎ 03-5771944.

The "BIG AGENCY" this month is inviting 35-45 lucky Filipinos to work as caregivers. If you are interested in inviting a relative for the best job with very good conditions, call us. ☎ 03-54441779, 03-5441468, 07-712827.

HIGH SALARY!!! And good conditions for pleasant Aupair, live-in. ☎ 03-5223969 , 09-988484.

PURCHASE/SALE

FOR SALE

CANON PLAIN PAPER FAX + Pioneer radiotape with detachable face. New, bargain. Tel. 03-293450.

SHARON AREA

DWELLINGS

RENTALS

HERZLIYA PITUAH, LUXURIOUS VILLA, long-term. Also for diplomats. ☎ 09-540994/ 09-552892.

HERZLIYA PITUAH, 3-bedroom furnished apartment, balcony, very quiet, garden. Tel. 09-570433 (agent).

SALES

CAESARIA, LUXURIOUS VILLA, new, pool, a/c, central heating + vacuum cleaning, sea view, $750,000. 06-383261/09-552892.

HERZLIYA PITUAH, prestigious street, dunam + house, option of additional unit. Ilham Real Estate ☎ 09-589611.

FOR SALE, 5 rooms, luxurious, next to the sea in Netanya. "Migvan Properties". Tel. 09-343852.

BUSINESS OFFERS

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY, OPTOMETRIST practice for sale, owner travelling overseas. Steve, 09-540712 (W); 03-5445398 (H).

SITS. VAC.

OFFICE STAFF

NEW, DYNAMIC HI-TECH COMPANY looking for SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, mother-tongue English, with good knowledge of Hebrew, computer literate, full-time position only. ☎ 09-910526.

HOUSEHOLD HELP

HOUSEKEEPERS, METAPLOT, AU PAIR + recommendations for Sharon area, for suitable, immediate employment. ☎ 03-5401158.

VEHICLES

UNRESTRICTED

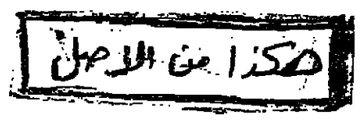
1988 CITROEN BX, fully equipped, front first owner. ☎ 09-584529.

HAIFA & NORTH

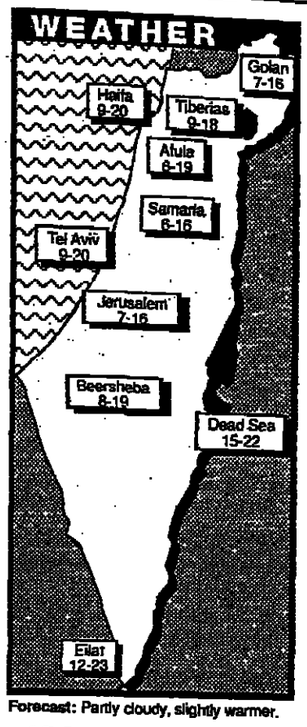
SITS. WANTED

YOUNG WOMAN INTERESTED in working for elderly couple. ☎ 04-783553, morn.





WEATHER



Forecast: Partly cloudy, slightly warmer.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	-05	23	04	39	cloudy
Berlin	-09	21	-04	25	cloudy
Buenos Aires	18	64	26	79	rain
Cairo	09	48	18	64	clear
Chicago	-13	09	-03	27	cloudy
Copenhagen	-04	25	00	32	cloudy
Frankfurt	-09	21	-03	27	cloudy
Geneva	-02	28	00	32	cloudy
Helsinki	-01	30	-01	30	cloudy
Hong Kong	15	59	21	70	clear
Johnny	16	60	30	86	clear
Lisbon	08	46	16	61	clear
London	06	46	10	50	cloudy
Los Angeles	12	54	14	57	cloudy
Madrid	01	34	10	50	clear
Moscow	-12	10	-08	21	cloudy
New York	01	34	11	51	cloudy

WHERE TO GO

JERUSALEM

Conducted Tours

HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the *Mount Scopus campus, in English*, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882819.

AMIT Women. For a free conducted tour of our installations, call Jerusalem 619222; Tel Aviv 5233154. Hours: 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Sun.-Thur.

TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Conrad Felixmuller: His Dresden Years, exploration of the work of a German Expressionist artist◇Keith Haring◇16th-19th Cent. European Art◇Impressionism, Post-Impressionism◇The School of Paris◇The Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.◇Sculpture◇20th cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.◇Edvard Munch, selected prints◇Israeli Art - A Historic Presentation◇From New Horizons Onward. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Asim Abu-Shakra◇The Motif of Cactus in Israeli Art 1910-1990. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **Art Education Center.** Tel: 6919155.

ORT. To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 513141; Tel Aviv 5203222, 5203293; Netanya 823744.

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Amona, 9 Leib Yaffe, 731901; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.

Tel Aviv: Ciel Pharm Gan Ha'ir, 71 ibn Gvirol, 527-9317; Kupat Holim Clalit, 7-9 Amsterdam, 523-2383. Till a.m. Tuesday: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 5223535. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 6413730.

Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Silvia, 182 Weizmann, Kfar Sava, 959642.

Netanya: Kupat Holim Clalit (till midnight) 8 Raziel, 603549; (after midnight) 31 Brodetzky, 628121.

Krayot area: Harman, 4 Simtat Modi'in, Kiryat Motzkin, 707770/3.

Haifa: Derech Hayam, 209 Derech Hayam, 371472.

Herzliya: Ciel Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.

Upper Nazareth: *Ciel Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.*

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology); Misgav Ladach (obstetrics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics, ENT). In case of attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.

Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).

Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	**100**
FIRE	**102**
FIRST AID	**101**

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 551333	Karmiel* 988555
Ashkelon 551332	Kfar Sava* 902222
Bat Yam* 5511111	Kiron 9311111
Beersheba* 274767	K. Shmona* 944334
Beit Shemesh 523133	Nahariya* 912333
Dan Region* 5793333	Netanya* 823333
Eilat* 372333	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Hadera* 09-623333	Rehovot* 461333
Haifa* 512233	Rishon* 9642333
Hatzor* 920333	Safed 920333
Holon* 5511111	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Jerusalem* 523133	Tiberias* 790111

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110

Eran — Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6961113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 988770, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera 346789.

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-514111, 03-5451133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-560506 (also in Amharic).

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-528205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

CRITIC'S CHOICE



Lock, Shock and Barrel hatch a plot in Tim Burton's stop-motion animated feature 'The Nightmare Before Christmas.' (Bo Henry)

WORKSHOP IN ENGLISH

HELEN KAYE

ELLIDA Geyra will conduct a dance workshop under the auspices of the Israel Dance Library and the Friends of Tel Aviv University. Each of the four meetings through February 20 will be at Beit Ariela in Tel Aviv and there'll be only 30 participants. The first workshop is on January 30, called "Dance as a Universal Language." Information: 03-641-7115/0325.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

YONATAN Zak and Irina Friedland present a recital for piano for four hands today (5 p.m.) at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem, within the Voice of Music chamber music series, and which is being broadcast live on radio. The program features compositions by Danzi, Barber and Brahms, as well as Schubert's Fantasy in F. The concert is free.

At 1:30 p.m. the Hebrew University String Quartet performs a Beethoven program at room 2715 of the Humanities Faculty on the Mt. Scopus campus. Free.

Tomorrow in Jerusalem the Yad Harif Orchestra under Roni Porat performs a program of works by Janacek and Mozart as well as Porat's own newest opus, a serenade for strings titled *This Is How One Does Not Write Music Today*. The soloists are flutist Margalit Gafni and violinist Deborah Grosman. It begins at 8:30 p.m. at the YMCA concert hall. The program is repeated January 18 (9 p.m.) at the Ramat Gan Theater.

TELEVISION

PENNY STARR

TODAY NBC Superchannel launches a brand new financial program geared towards European business. *European Money Wheel* is four hours of live coverage from the financial capitals of Europe. *It starts today at 11 a.m.*

Fans of *Hanging with Mr. Cooper* will have to tune in to tonight's episode. It's the last one. A new sitcom called *Family Matters* starts tomorrow night at the same time, 8:25 p.m., on Channel 6. (OK, Cooperites, you don't have to go cold turkey – the show returns Saturdays at 3:30 p.m.)

If you don't have to see Mr. Cooper's farewell then you're free to tune to Superchannel at 8:30 for *Tycoons*, which looks at Richard Branson, the high-school dropout who founded Virgin Records and Virgin Air.

FILMS

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** – Tim Burton created the story and characters for this stop-action, musical animation and served as the film's producer. Directed by Henry Selick, the darkly coinic Christmas movie is full of quirky little innovations and lots of discreet ticklish bits. Hilarious characters abound, and certain gestures are marvelously fresh. That said, there's something rather cold about the genre's elaborate technical processes. The puppets' slight twitching motions alert us at all times to the complexity of each shot's construction, an attribute which serves more to impress than to move us. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.)

CINEMA

JERUSALEM

CINEMATHEQUE Don't Touch My Holocaust 6:45 ★ Peace Chronicle 9:30 G.G. **GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha)** ☎ 788448 The River Wild 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ The Real McCoy•Eretz Hadasha 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ Exotica 7, 9:30 ★ Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ Interview With the Vampire•Disclosure 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Timecop•The Specialist 4:30 **JERUSALEM THEATER** Lifetimes 7, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot The Siren's Song•Nightmare Before Christmas•Mother's Boys•Barcelona 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Renaissance Man 5, 7:15, 9:45 RON 1-2 ☎ 234704 1 Rabbi Akiva St. Tsahal 6:30 ★ Bad Girls 5, 7:15, 9:30

TEL AVIV

CINEMATHEQUE A Woman's Case 7 ★ Anna Boleyn 9:30 ★ The Essence of Green Papaya 5, 7:30, 9:45 **DEKEL** ☎ 5443200 94 Yehuda Hamaccabi St. It Could Happen To You 7:30, 9:45 **DIZENGOFF 1-3** ☎ 200465 Dizengoff Center Gilbert Grape 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Into the West 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Burnt by the Sun 11 a.m., 4:15, 7 ★ True Romance 9:45 **DRIVE IN** Timecop 10 ★ Sex Film 12 midnight **GAN HA'IR Priscilla** 5, 7:30, 9:45 **GAT Renaissance Man** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 **HAKOLNOA ZOA HOUSE** ☎ 6959341 28 Ibn Gabirol St. **Kika** 5, 7:30, 9:45 G.G. HOD 1-4 ☎ 5228090 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. The River Wild•Priscilla•Eretz Hadasha 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10 ★ Forrest Gump 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10 **MAXIM Speed** 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-CHEN** ☎ 5282288* Dizengoff Center Pulp Fiction 1:15, 4:15, 7, 9:45 ★ Mother's Boys 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Chasers•The Siren's Song 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Color of the Night 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674* Opera House Serial Mom•Four Weddings and a Funeral•Nightmare Before Christmas•Barcelona 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (English dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) 5 G.G. SHAHAF 1-2 ☎ 5271645 Kikar Namir Forrest Gump 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ The River Wild 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 ☎ 5177952 2 Yona Hanavi St. The Specialist•Timecop 5, 7:30, 10 ★ The Client 5, 7:30 **G.G. TEL AVIV** ☎ 5281181 65 Pinsker St. Disclosure•The Real McCoy•Interview With the Vampire 5, 7:30, 10 **TEL AVIV MUSEUM** ☎ 6961287 27 Shaul Hamelekh Boulevard The House of Angels 5, 7:30, 10 **ZAFON** Exotica 5, 7:30, 9:45

HAIFA

CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎ 325755 Timecop 7:15 ★ The Client 9:15 ★ Priscilla 7:15, 9:30 **CINEMA CAFÉ MORIAH** ☎ 242477 The Essence of Green Papaya 7:15, 9:15 **ORLY Lifetimes** 6:45, 9:15 **RAV-GAT 1-2** ☎ 674311 Pulp Fiction 6:30, 9:15 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 4:45, 7, 9:15 **RAV-MOR 1-7** ☎ 416899/8 Renaissance Man•The Color of the Night•Mother's Boys 4:45, 7, 9:15 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 4:45, 7, 9:15 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 6:30, 9:30 ★ Forrest Gump 4, 6:45, 9:30 ★ Gilbert Grape 4:45, 7, 9:15 **RAV-OR 1-3** ☎ 246553 Mother's Boys•Gilbert Grape•Nightmare Before Christmas 4:45, 7, 9:15

ARAD

STAR The River Wild 7:15, 9:30 ★ Interview With the Vampire 7:15, 9:30 ★ Timecop 7:15, 9:30

ASHDOD

G.G. GIL The Real McCoy•Interview with the Vampire 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The River Wild•Disclosure•Chasers 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

ASHKELON

G.G. GIL Interview with the Vampire•The Real McCoy•The River Wild•Disclosure 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45 RAV CHEN 1-5 ☎ 711223 Renaissance Man 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Color of the Night 7:30, 9:45 ★ Mother's Boys 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Chasers 5

BAT YAM

RAV CHEN ☎ 5531077 Disclosure•The Real McCoy 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Specialist•The River Wild•Chasers 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Color of the Night 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 7, 9:45

BEERSHEBA

G.G. GIL The River Wild•The Real McCoy•Disclosure 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45 RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎ 235278 Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Chasers•Renaissance Man 5, 7:30, 9:45

DIMONA

MOFET Timecop 8

HERZLIYA

COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) ☎ 6902866 Forrest Gump 7:30, 10:15 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 7:30, 10 STAR ☎ 589068 29 Sokolov St. The River Wild 7:30, 10

HOD HASHARON

MOFET ☎ 405616 Timecop 7:15, 9:30

KARMIEL

CINEMA 1-3 ☎ 887277 Timecop 7, 9:30 ★ Forrest Gump 6:30, 9:15 ★ Interview With the Vampire 6:45, 9:15

KFAR SAVA

G.G. GIL The River Wild 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Disclosure•Interview With the Vampire•Four Weddings and a Funeral 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ The Real McCoy 7:15, 9:45 ★ Schindler's List 4

KIRYAT BIALIK

G.G. KIRYON 1-9 ☎ 779166 Interview With the Vampire 7, 9:30 ★ The River Wild•The Real McCoy•Disclosure 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ The Color of the Night•Four Weddings and a Funeral 7, 9:30 ★ Eretz Hadasha 7, 9:30 ★ Forrest Gump 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ The Lion King•Monkey Trouble 4:45 ★ The Specialist 7, 9:30 ★ Baby's Day Out•Angels•The Mask 4:45

KIRYAT MALACHI

HAKIRYA Interview With the Vampire 5, 7:30, 9:30 MOFET Timecop 7:15, 9:30

KIRYAT ONO

MATNAS The Color of the Night 7, 9:15

LOD

STAR Timecop 7:30, 9:45 ★ Disclosure 7:15, 9:45 ★ Interview With the Vampire 7:15, 9:30

NESS ZIONA

G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 404729 Disclosure 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Real McCoy•The River Wild 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45

NETANYA

G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 628452 The River Wild•Interview With The Vampire•Disclosure 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ The Real McCoy 5, 7:15, 9:45 RAV-CHEN 1-4 ☎ 618570 Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Renaissance Man 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Mother's Boys 5, 7:30, 9:45

OR YEHUDA

G.G. GIL The Color of the Night 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Interview With the Vampire•Disclosure 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45

PETAH TIKVA

G.G. HECHAL 1-3 ☎ 9300844 The River Wild 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Disclosure 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 7:15, 9:45 G. G. RAM 1-3 ☎ 9340818 Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ The Real McCoy•Interview With the Vampire 5, 7:15, 9:45

RA'ANANA

PARK Disclosure 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Renaissance Man 5, 7:30 ★ Pulp Fiction 4:15, 7, 9:45 ★ Gilbert Grape 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 10

RAMAT GAN

RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 797121 Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 7, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The River Wild 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Angels 5 RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 6730697 Interview With The Vampire•Disclosure 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Real McCoy 5, 7:30, 9:45

RAMAT HASHARON

KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 The Siren's Song 7, 9:30

RISHON LEZION

HAZAHAV Disclosure 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 RAV CHEN Mother's Boys•Chasers 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Pulp Fiction 4, 7, 9:45 ★ Renaissance Man 5, 7:15, 9:45

RISHON NEW IND. AREA

GAL 1-5 ☎ 9619669 The River Wild•The Real McCoy•Interview With The Vampire 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Specialist 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Forrest Gump 4:30, 7, 9:45 STAR 1-4 ☎ 9619985-7 27 Lishinsky St. The Color of the Night 9:45 ★ Baby's Day Out 7:15 ★ The Siren's Song 7:15, 9:45 ★ Priscilla 9:45 ★ The Client 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (English dialogue) 7:30

UPPER NAZARETH

G.G GIL The Color of the Night•The River Wild•The Flying Camel•The Real McCoy•Disclosure•Four Weddings and a Funeral 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ Forrest Gump 4, 7, 9:45

* Tone phone reservations 03-5252244

** All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

TELEVISION

■ CHANNEL 1

6:30 News **6:45** Cartoon **7:00** Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Art of the Western World **8:30** Reading **8:45** Science **9:00** Nature **9:25** Rehov Sumsum **10:00** Morning Talk – Barya Barak hosts professionals in the fields of psychology, education and society **10:30** Science and Technology **11:00** English: Seven in Heaven **11:25** World History **12:00** French – Avec Plaisir **12:10** Natural Science **12:25** Geography – the planet Earth **12:45** Society **13:15** The South Pole **13:30** Keep Fit **14:00** Pretty Butterfly **14:30** 1001 Americas – cartoon series on history of America

■ CHANNEL 1

15:30 Danny's Room **15:35** Tinytoon **16:00** Zap to One **17:00** A New Evening **17:35** Animals and Smiles – quiz show **18:00** Rugrats **18:15** News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Sports magazine **19:00** News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS

19:30 Kindergarten Party hosted by Rivka Michaeli, with Shlomo Gronich and Julian Chagrin **20:00** Mabat **21:00** Popolitica **22:10** Between the Lines **23:00** Backtrack – Ehud Manor hosts artists **23:30** News magazine

■ CHANNEL 2

14:00 Nature documentary from Australia **15:00** Disney Time: Duck Tales **15:30** Disney Time: Tale Spin **16:00** The Bold and the Beautiful **17:00** Reshef at Five **17:30** Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **18:00** Double Dare – children's game show **18:30** Dr. Quinn – Medicine Woman **19:30** Lingo – game show **20:00** News **20:30** Dating show **21:00** Comedy Store **21:30** Gov Night – entertainment with Gidi Gov **22:40** Picket Fences **23:40** Herman's Head – comedy **00:00** News **00:05** Herman's Head (continued) **00:10** Poirot

■ JORDAN TV (unofficial)

17:00 French programs **18:30** News in French **19:00** News in Hebrew **19:30** News highlights in English **19:33** Black Beauty **20:00** Boogie's Diner **20:30** Quantum Leap **21:10** Shades of LA. **22:00** News in English **22:20** Film

■ MIDDLE EAST TV

14:00 The 700 Club **14:55** Film: The Avenger – some displaced Trojans cause problems for ancient Greeks **16:30** Mighty Mouse **16:55** Jonny Quest **17:20** Dangermouse **17:45** Superbook II **18:10** Documentary **19:10** Rescue 911 **20:00** World News Tonight **20:30** CNN Headline News **21:00** The Cosby Show **21:30** Lois and Clark: The new adventures of Superman **22:20** Time Trax **23:10** 700 Club **00:00** Special Programs

CABLE

■ FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Local broadcast **9:00** One Life to Live **9:45** The Young and the Restless **10:30** Guests in the Living Room **11:00** I Love Lucy **11:30** Celeste **12:15** Neighbors **12:40** Falcon Crest **13:30** Designing Women **14:00** Israeli Clips **14:15** I'll Fly Away **15:00** Topaz **15:45** Knots Landing **16:35** Neighbors **17:00** Love Boat **17:50** Israeli Clips **18:05** One Life to Live **18:50** The Young and the Restless **19:30** Local broadcast **20:00** Celeste **20:50** Falcon Crest **21:40** Cheers **22:10** Murphy Brown **22:35** Madman of the People **23:00** ENG **23:50** Coach **00:20** The Commish **1:10** Murder She Wrote

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 Under the Biltmore Clock (1984) (rpt) **11:45** Double Edge (1992) (rpt) **13:15** Pennies from Heaven (1936) (rpt) **14:35** Cut! – gossip **14:45** Stranded (1987) (rpt) **16:05** Mother of the Bride (1991) (rpt) **17:40** Goodbye Supermom (1987) – drama about a woman who gives up her career to look after her family **19:20** Battling for Baby (1991) (rpt) **20:50** What's New at the Movies **21:00** Micha (1992) – Russian coming-of-age drama **22:30** Places in the Heart (1984) (rpt) **00:25** Heatwave (1990) – Blair Underwood stars in this drama based on the 1965 LA riots **2:00** Dark Avenger (1990) (rpt)

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons **9:00** Cartoons **9:35** Treasure Island **10:00** Astro Farm **10:35** He-Man **11:05** Punky Brewster **11:40** Beverly Hills 90210 **12:40** A Question of Nature **13:00** Cartoons **13:35** Wild West C.O.W. **14:00** Orson and Olivia **14:35** Zazoo-U **15:05** He-Man **15:35** Family Ties **16:10** Beverly Hills 90210 **16:55** Flying Classroom **17:05** Wild Nature **17:30** Tazmania **18:05** Treasure Island **18:30** Astro Farm **19:00** Cartoons **19:30** Three's Company **20:00** Married with Children **20:25** Hanging with Mr. Cooper **20:45** All in the Family **21:15** Law and Order

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Solaris (1972) – Andrei Tarkovsky wrote and directed this sci-fi drama **00:45** Trouble in Paradise (1932) – Ernst Lubitsch's classic comedy describes the adventures of a couple of jewel thieves who break into a wealthy woman's Paris apartment. Starring Herbert Marshall, Miriam Hopkins (81 mins)

■ DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University: Management and Economics **12:00** Survival **13:00** Encyclopedia Galactica **13:30** The Next Step **14:00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **16:00** Survival **17:00** Encyclopedia Galactica **17:30** The Next Step **18:00** Open University (rpt of morning's programs) **20:00** Wild South **21:00** Great Castles of Europe **21:30** Treasure Islands **22:00** First Tuesday **23:00** Wild South **23:50** Open University (rpt of morning's programs)

■ SUPER CHANNEL

7:00 ITN World News **7:15** UK Today **7:30** Weekly Business **8:00** Today featuring ITN World News and FT Business **9:30** No details available **10:00** Super Shop **11:00** European Money Wheel **15:00** US Money Wheel **18:30** FT Business Tonight **19:00** Today **20:00** ITN World News Live **20:30** Tycoons **21:30** Houston Homicide **22:30** No details available **23:00** ITN World News **23:30** The Best of the Tonight Show with Jay Leno **00:30** Real Personal **1:00** FT Business Tonight

■ STAR PLUS

6:00 Donahue **7:00** Video Fashion Monthly **7:30** Aerobics **8:00** Neighbors **8:30** Santa Barbara **9:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **10:00** Oprah Winfrey **11:00** Riviera **11:30** Ciao Italia **12:00** Aerobics **12:30** The Sullivans **13:00** Small Wonder **13:30** Robotech **14:00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles **14:30** Batman **15:00** Video Fashion **15:30** Neighbors **16:00** M*A*S*H **16:30** Miniseries: Prime Suspect I (part 1 of 2) **18:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **19:00** Santa Barbara **20:00** The Twilight Zone **20:30** M*A*S*H **21:00** Remington Steele **22:00** Video Fashion **22:30** Neighbors **23:00** Miniseries: Heroes – The Return (part 2 of 2) **1:00** Richmond Hill

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:06 Musical Matinee **9:05** Liszt: At the Tomb of Richard Wagner (Kronos Qt), Piano sonata in B minor (Ax); Prokofiev: Piano concerto no 4 (Berman/Concertgebouw/Jarvi) **10:05** Works for harp **11:00** Reicha: Wind quintet in E flat op 88/2 (Prague Acad); Weber: Quintet in B flat for clarinet and strings op 34 (Meyer/Heilbrun CO/Farber); Malcolm Arnold: Sonata for flute and piano op 121 (Nash) **12:00** Light Classical – Rossini: excerpts from The Barber of Seville **13:00** Gideon Kremer plays works by Shostakovich, Schulhoff, Stravinsky, Schnittke **14:06** Encore **15:00** Cycle of Works – Beethoven's piano sonatas **16:00** Early music **17:00** Live broadcast from Henry Crown Auditorium, Jerusalem – Yonatan Zak, Irena Friedland (piano 4 hands). Danzi: Sonata in C; Schubert: Fantasy in F minor; Barber: Souvenirs ballet suite; Brahms: arrangements of Russian folk songs, Variations on theme by Schumann **19:05** Rainbow of Sounds **20:05** Beethoven: Sonata no 3 in A for cello and piano op 69; Mozart: Concerto in E flat for 2 pianos and orch K365 (Brendel, Cooper/St Martin/Marriner) **21:00** A Matter of Agreement **23:00** Just Jazz

■ RADIO 1

6:06 Hebrew songs **7:00** News in English **7:15** News in French **7:30** Hebrew songs **8:05** Morning Magazine **13:00** News and program in English **13:30** News and program in French **14:05** Old songs **15:05** Youth program **16:05** Dial **17:00** News in English **17:02** News in French **17:05** Voice of the Arts **18:05** Religious programs **20:00** Evening news – TV broadcast **20:50** Bible portion **21:00** Hazanut **22:05** Advice **23:05** Hebrew songs

■ RADIO 2

6:06 This Morning – news magazine **8:05** Another Matter **9:05** What We Had There **10:05** It's All Talk **12:05** Midday – news, commentary, music **14:05** Magic Moments **15:05** Foreign Affairs **15:45** Foreign Press **16:05** The Color of Money **17:05** Five After the News **18:05** Today – newsreel **19:05** Legal Discussions **20:00** Evening news – TV broadcast **20:30** Hebrew songs **21:05** Night Games **23:05** News and music **00:05** Midnight Magazine **00:15** News and music, continued **1:05** Into the Night **5:05** First Light

■ RADIO 3

Music all day and night

■ REKA

18:00 News in English **18:15** News in French **20:00** News in Russian

■ ARMY RADIO

5:02 Good Morning IDF **6:05** Hebrew songs **6:30** Good Morning Israel **7:07** Seven-O-Seven **8:00** Good Morning Israel **9:05** It's Difficult in the Morning **10:05** Right Now **12:50** Today's Entertainment **13:00** Midday News **13:15** It's Uncertain **15:05** Someone to Talk To **16:00** An Hour Before **17:00** Good Evening Israel **18:05** On the Safe Side **18:30** Eavesdropping **20:00** Evening news – Channel 2 TV broadcast **20:30** Come to the Board **21:05** Program with Dubi Lentz **22:05** Vitamins **23:05** This Was the Day **00:10** Night Birds **2:00** We Don't Want to Sleep

■ ARMY ON WHEELS

7:05 The State on the Way **9:05** Songs **10:05** Sun **12:05** Air Conditioning **13:05** Showers **15:05** Program with Yoav Kutner **16:05** Driving Wisely **18:05** Program with Lea Oz **20:05** Below the Belt **22:05** Good Night

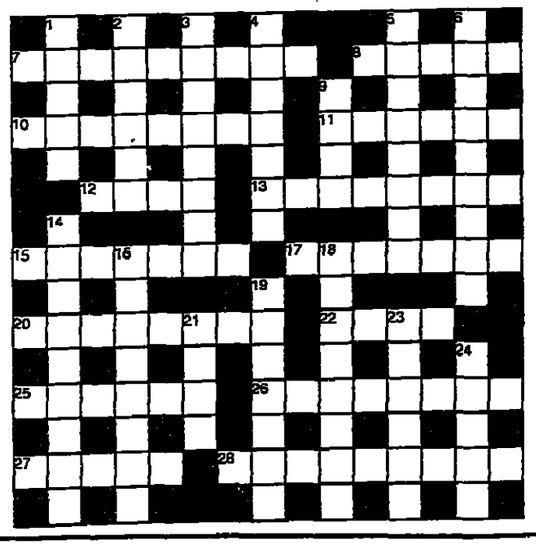
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

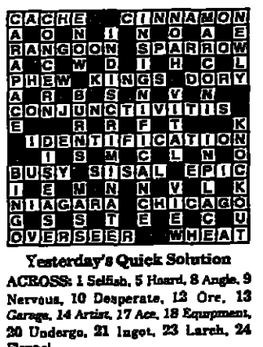
7 American backing composer, he's really supportive (9)
8 Carry a key ring (5)
10 Animal circumventing snare in the dark (8)
11 Accommodation (not 5-star) for those unfortunately left behind (6)
12 Burn to do odd jobs? (4)
13 A skinhead—lawless individual but sound (8)
15 Most intimate article about going into a home (7)
17 Looked up to, though perpetually in debt (7)
20 Thin base for making alcoholic drink (8)
22 Such stuff conveys nothing to a sportsman (4)
25 Battered relics found in the kitchen (6)
26 There's no fighting force to join usually (8)
27 Experiment with arsenic for example (5)
28 To bury some church members cross is required (9)

DOWN

1 Finding a drug upset the warder (5)
2 Bearing with fish smell (6)
3 These fliers scrap over others (8)
4 Old serving man giving vent maybe—about time! (7)
5 Hang on to small-page book (8)
6 Not paid, so likely to make a change (9)
9 A cut some people approach optimistically (4)
14 His response to complaint is always simple (9)
16 A riot can result in personal protection being obtained (8)
18 Aim to consume a little cod. It's approved of (8)
19 Writing cagily? (7)
21 Go off and twist (4)
23 Roughly, roughly a score (6)
24 Relaxed, having invested money in wine (5)



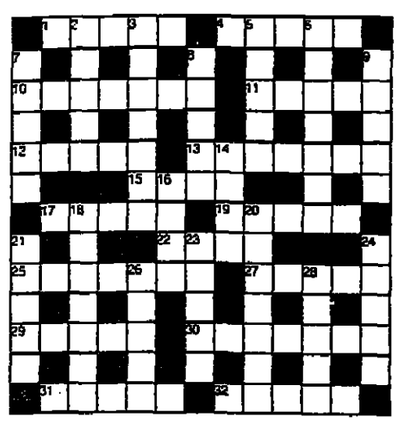
SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Selfish, 5 Hoard, 8 Angle, 9 Nervous, 10 Desperate, 12 Ore, 13 Garage, 14 Artist, 17 Ace, 18 Equipment, 20 Undergo, 21 Ingot, 23 Larch, 24 Flannel

DOWN: 1 Stand, 2 Log, 3 Iceberg, 4 Hangar, 5 Horse, 6 Apologise, 7 Dissent, 11 Surrender, 13 Gradual, 15 Replica, 16 Put off, 18 Earth, 19 Total, 22 Gun.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Purchaser (5)
4 Assertion (5)
10 Outstanding (7)
11 Battle (5)
12 Statement of beliefs (5)
13 Oriental (7)
15 Revolve (4)
17 Chose (5)
19 Nous (5)
22 Entry (4)
25 Pharmacist (7)
27 Frequently (5)
29 Darkness (5)
30 Letter (7)
31 Decorate (5)
32 Below (5)

DOWN

2 Join (5)
3 Ugly sight (7)
5 Elevates (5)
6 Entrance (7)
7 Instruct (5)
8 Iron alloy (5)
9 Rock (5)
14 Too (4)
16 Chances (4)
18 Promised (7)
20 Wearing away (7)
21 Perfume (5)
23 Aquatic mammal (5)
24 Go in (5)
26 Bury (5)
28 Name (5)

Organization tax set to finance Histadrut

MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE Histadrut and employers' coordinating bureau yesterday reached an accord on collecting an organization tax to finance the Histadrut, as well as on the new framework wage agreement.

According to the organization-tax agreement, the employers will deduct 0.9% from Histadrut members' wages and 0.7% from other workers on collective wage agreements, to cover trade union services and protection.

Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon said yesterday the additional 0.2% paid by Histadrut members will give them the right to free legal consultation and individual legal protection.

It was also agreed to shorten the work week from 45 hours to 42.5 within three years and update the minimum wage 16% to 18%, which was less than the full compensation for inflation that the Histadrut had demanded.

The negotiations, which went on all through Saturday night into yesterday morning, ended to both sides' satisfaction: the organization tax will ensure the Histadrut's ongoing operation, while the framework wage agreement will assure employers industrial peace for the next three years.

The organization tax will first be deducted by the large private employers including the manufacturers, contractors, hoteliers, retailers, diamond merchants, and others, encompassing some half-a-million workers.

Trade unions that have left the Histadrut, such as the doctors, teachers, Hapoel Hamizrahi, and others, will have to formulate separate wage agreements with their employers.

The Histadrut made it clear to the employers that it would not share the allocations with newly created organizations, founded simply to collect the organization tax.

The employers agreed to the Histadrut's demand to sever the present framework agreement from negotiations regarding the cost-of-living adjustment. These talks are to begin in 10 days.

Ramon noted that without an extension order – which must be issued by the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry to apply the wage agreement to all economic sectors – anyone who is not a member of the Histadrut or is not part of a collective wage agreement will not benefit from the shorter work week or the raise in the minimum wage.

"Whoever doesn't want to benefit from these achievements, needn't pay the Histadrut fees," Ramon said. It is still not clear, however, whether an extension order will obligate employees on personal contracts to pay the fees.

Some Histadrut sources noted that there would also be problems with workers' organizations that prefer to collect fees themselves and make their own union decisions.

It was also agreed that a joint committee examine the application of collective wage agreements to new sectors, such as high-tech industries.



Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo (left) and Environment Minister Yossi Sarid inaugurate the city's first animal ambulance, at a ceremony at Kikar Malchei Yisrael yesterday. The unit mainly aims to serve the city's homeless animals. (Alon Ron/Israel Sun)

Court considers Deri's wish to tape trial

EVELYN GORDON

FORMER interior minister Aryeh Deri's request to tape the proceedings of his corruption trial is the equivalent of saying stenographic court protocols should be eliminated altogether, Supreme Court President Meir Shamgar said yesterday.

The High Court of Justice was hearing a petition by Deri and his co-defendants to allow them to make tapes of the trial for the defense's internal use. The prosecution did not object to the request, but the Jerusalem District Court refused, saying it did not want two competing protocols of the trial.

Deri's lawyer, Dan Avi-Yitzhak, said the tapes would not interfere with the court's work, but would be useful for several reasons. First, he noted, testimony is sometimes heard even if the lawyer is absent, and a tape would enable the lawyer to review every word of the testimony, plus the speaker's intonations and hesitations – impressions which cannot be obtained from a stenographic protocol. And even if the lawyer were present, he added, there might be certain sections which it would be useful to review word for word.

The stenographic protocol is an abridged version.

Also, said Avi-Yitzhak, there are times when a witness denies having said something, charging that the stenographer made a mistake. A tape would be irrefutable.

Finally, he said, the stenographic protocol is often given to the lawyers hours after the day's hearing has ended, leaving little time to prepare for the following day's cross-examination. A tape would be available immediately.

"What you're giving us is essentially a general argument against the stenographic protocol," responded Shamgar. Is it worth getting rid of such an efficient method for the few times when a tape would be preferable, he asked?

The justices were also concerned there not be two protocols warring for official status. This, they said, is "clearly undesirable."

Nili Arad, head of the Justice Ministry's High Court division, added her fear that the defense might use the taped protocol for additional procedural wrangles.

Avi-Yitzhak rejected all these concerns. The tape would be for internal use, he said, and if necessary, he is willing to promise not to request any corrections of the stenographic protocol based on it.

Furthermore, he said, he does not want to eliminate the stenographic protocol. This version, because it is not word-for-word, is generally one-third the length of the transcription of a taped protocol, he noted, and this is a plus. It is also cheaper for the court, and the stenographic protocol is still available sooner than a transcription of a taped protocol.

However, he said, the need for a tape is so great that if the High Court absolutely refuses to allow it in addition to the stenographic protocol, he would ask the district court to replace the stenographer with a tape.

Justices Shamgar, Aharon Barak, and Tova Strassberg-Cohen will give their ruling at a later date.

Moslem immigrants of Jewish descent number around 500

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE number of Moslems of Jewish origin who have come to Israel from a nearby Arab country is about 500, an informed source said yesterday.

The immigrants began arriving in 1992, following repeated requests from relatives, who had not seen them for some 40 years.

The area in which they were living had no organized Jewish communal life, because the bulk of the community made aliya shortly after the establishment of the state.

The efforts to bring the family members – mainly descendants of women who had converted to Islam because of mixed marriages – to Israel were for humanitarian considerations of family reunification, the source said. Newcomers who need conversion are offered this option on arrival here.

The unnamed country in this case is not the only one from which Moslems have recently made aliya. Among other Jewish populations that lived among Moslems – such as the Chechen, Albanian and Bosnian Jews – there are also immigrants who are practicing Moslems.

Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban yesterday came out against changing the Law of Return to restrict the admission of relatives of Jews, on the grounds there is no consensus for doing so.

"Both secular and haredi MKs are likely to find themselves with new legislation that is contrary to their intentions," Tzaban warned.

Secular cemeteries planned, state tells court

EVELYN GORDON

SECULAR cemeteries are being planned for each of the major regions of the country – Jerusalem, the North, the Center, and the South – the state told the High Court of Justice yesterday.

It was responding to a petition by the Menuha Nehona Burial Society, which specializes in non-Orthodox burials, and the Reform and Conservative movements.

The petition, on which the court has already issued a show-cause order, charged that the Religious Affairs Ministry and the Jerusalem Cemeteries Council have refused to allocate any secular gravesites, despite having agreed to do so following a 1992 petition to the court. It also protested the fact that the ministry has continued to refuse to license Menuha Nehona as a burial society.

In the state's response, attorney Uzi Fogelman noted that by law, a burial society cannot be licensed until it has been allocated land. This process, he said, has not yet been completed, but the ministry has promised to give Menuha Nehona's application "favorable consideration" once the land is allocated.

In Jerusalem, Fogelman wrote, a 30-dunam plot was tentatively allocated for non-religious burials, but several objections were submitted by the public, and a subcommittee of the local planning and building committee is now discussing them.

The Jerusalem region planning committee also recommended allocating a second site for non-Orthodox burials, but in September, the Environment Ministry ordered that an environmental impact study be submitted before proceeding.

In addition, Fogelman said, the Israel Lands Administration was ordered to locate appropriate sites for secular cemeteries in the North, the central region, and the South. Several possible sites were found during a preliminary investigation, and the ILA plans to make a final decision and begin the planning soon, he said.

Finally, he said, the petitioners' claim that there is an open plot in Jerusalem's Givat Shaul Cemetery, which is being denied them, is simply not true. It is also not true, he said, that land in this cemetery has been allocated to other burial societies since the 1992 High Court ruling. The allocations mentioned in the petition were made before the ruling, he said.

Lotto prize climbs to NIS 12 million

THE top prize in tomorrow's Lotto draw has been set at NIS 12 million, after no one correctly guessed all six numbers last week.

Last week, three people took NIS 57,782.50 each for the second prize. In 1994, 42 people became millionaires by winning Lotto.

Marrow donor needed to save woman's life

JUDY SIEGEL

MAGEN David Adom will perform simple blood tests on volunteers tomorrow to find a compatible bone-marrow donor for Lior Novick, a 28-year-old woman suffering from a pre-cancerous stage of leukemia.

MDA stations in Jerusalem, Haifa, Tiberias, and Rehovot, and the central blood bank at Tel Hashomer, will take blood samples between 3 and 9 p.m. and the Eilat branch from 3 to 6 p.m.

The Novick family, which raised $60,000 to test more than 1,000 blood samples, is seeking healthy volunteers aged 18 to 55 whose family – up to three generations back – originates from Eastern Europe, especially Lithuania and Latvia. The samples will be flown to the US, where they can be tested more cheaply and quickly than in Israel. If someone with a compatible tissue type is found and agrees to the minor operation for the removal of bone marrow, a transplant is likely to save her life.

Lior was born in Israel to parents of British and South African origin. The family left the country and returned when she was 11. Last summer, Lior's red-cell count fell to almost zero and she was diagnosed with a type of pre-leukemia that usually affects people in their 60s. Nevertheless, her fiance insisted they get married as scheduled.

She now goes to Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem every three weeks for a blood transfusion, but only a bone-marrow transplant can cure her. She is very weak before each transfusion, says her mother.

More information can be obtained by calling 08-381333.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, queen of hearts, jack of diamonds, and jack of clubs.

ISRAEL'S No. 1
ELDAN אלדן
RENT-A-CAR
FROM $147 PER WEEK
UNLIMITED MILEAGE
EXC. INSURANCE
LOW SEASON PRICE
CELLULAR PHONE IN EVERY CAR
VALID 6/1/95 - 31/3/95

MALIN
מכון ון ליר בירושלים
THE VAN LEER JERUSALEM INSTITUTE
invites the public to a lecture by
Professor Frances Degen Horowitz
President
The Graduate School & University Center, CUNY
on
The Nature-Nurture Debate - Again
The Role of Heredity and Environment in Human Development
Chairman: Professor Charles Greenbaum
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Thursday, 12 January 1995, at 8 p.m.
at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute
Albert Einstein Square, Jerusalem

"Israel On the Map"
Real Estate
and Investment Supplements
Just before Pessah, The Jerusalem Post will publish special supplements, devoted to real estate and investments, in Israel.
The supplements will be published in the International Editions of March 20 and 27, and the daily paper of the festival eve, April 14.
For more information and to advertise in these supplement, please contact Udi Bash, 03-6390333, Fax. 03-6390277.

STATE OF ISRAEL • MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
OLD BATTERIES CAN POISON THE ENVIRONMENT!
Old batteries thrown into the dustbin release dangerous chemicals at the rubbish dump, which poison the ground water, the ground and the environment.
THAT'S NEGATIVE (-)
If you put used batteries into a battery collection container, you protect the environment.
THAT'S POSITIVE (+)
School pupils have been given bags for collecting old batteries. PLEASE collect up your old batteries, and put them in the container.
Containers have been placed in shopping centers,shops that sell batteries • supermarkets • schools.
The batteries will be transferred to the poisonous waste unit at Ramat Hovav.
The campaign to collect used batteries is being run by the Ministry of the Environment, in cooperation with local authorities and environmental groups:
The Society for the Protection of Nature, the Nature Reserves Authority, the National Parks Authority, Tadiran, and the marketing chains.

INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR
March 12-17
A special supplement on the fair will be published with
The Jerusalem Post on March 10
The Jerusalem Post International edition on March 13.
To advertise in the supplement, contact:
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